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THE PATLAR

Voice of Gay America

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PSYCHOLOGISTS ESTABLISH NEW GAY DIVISION

The American Psychological Association (APA) has established a new division, the Society for the Psychological Study of Lesbian and Gay Issues, effective January 1985. Approved by a two-thirds vote of APA's governing Council of Representatives, the new division marks continued recognition by psychologists of the importance of research about lesbian and gay issues, and of the need to provide better and more appropriate mental health services to gay and lesbian clients.

In past years, APA has passed policy resolutions supporting gay and lesbian civil rights and the declassification of homosexuality as a mental illness. Almost ten years ago, the Association urged the enactment of gay civil rights laws at the local, state, and federal levels, and condemned public and private discrimination in such areas as employment, housing, child custody, public accommodation, and licensing. The 60,000 member Association has called for all mental health professions to take the lead in removing the stigma of mental illness that has long been associated with homosexuality. APA has also been the only professional association to continuously fund a Committee on Gay Concerns, which has been a regular part of the APA governance structure for the past five years. In addition, the Association has filed amicus briefs in important civil rights cases before the Supreme Court involving gay defendants and plaintiffs. With the establishment of the new division, APA will be able to broaden the psychological focus on issues of importance to the lesbian and gay community.

The new division puts the study of gay and lesbian issues on par with other areas of psychological activity such as educational, clinical, and experimental psychology and the psychological study of social issues. San Francisco psychologist Stephen F. Morin, Ph.D. was elected president of the new division. He noted that about half of the division's 500 initial members are gay or lesbian, while the remainder are not themselves gay but are specialists on gay and lesbian concerns.

Dr. Morin noted that establishment of the new division will provide psychologists knowledgeable about gay and lesbian issues with the opportunity to be represented on APA's governing Council of Representatives, and will be allocated program time at the Association's annual convention.

GAY PILGRIMAGE PLANNED

A pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Rome for gay Catholics and those involved in ministry to sexual minorities is being planned for February 1985. It is believed to be the first pilgrimage designed specifically for lesbian and gay Catholics, their families and friends.

Organized by New Ways Ministry's Northeastern Representative, Br. Rick Garcia, BFCC, the ten-day pilgrimage will include historic and religious sites in Israel and Rome and will feature non-sexist, inclusive liturgies, the renewal of baptismal vows at the River Jordan, and an evening with members of an Israeli gay organization, as well as a general audience with the Pope.

Persons interested in more information should write Br. Rick Garcia, BFCC, Box 1461, New York, NY 10159.

LESBIAN OFFICER SUES AIR FORCE

A lawsuit was recently filed in federal court on behalf of an officer in the California Air National Guard who was involuntarily discharged because she wrote a letter to her commanding officer stating that she was a lesbian.

The lawsuit, which was brought by the American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California, alleges that Lieutenant Julie Johnson's First Amendment rights of freedom of speech and association have been violated by the US military. In addition, since members of the California Air National Guard are employees of the State of California, the Air Force has overstepped its bounds by ordering Johnson discharged. California law prohibits the termination of government employees solely on the basis of their sexual orientation.

Johnson informed the National Guard of her sexual orientation because she believed it was necessary as a matter of personal integrity. She was aware of the regulations requiring the discharge of homosexuals and was also aware that people suspected of being homosexual are often subjected to extensive investigations and interrogations.

Unwilling to live and work with the fear of being suspected or discovered, and not wanting to pretend that she was heterosexual in order to avoid suspicion, Johnson believed that the situation required her to be direct and honest with her commander.

BOY SCOUTS LOSE

The US Supreme Court has refused to review a California court's ruling that the Boy Scouts of America cannot exclude gays from membership. The case was brought by Timothy Curran, an Eagle Scout, who held a volunteer position of scoutmaster of a troop.

Curran was a scoutmaster when a paper ran an article naming him as a model gay youth. Shortly afterward, he was told that he could not continue as a scout leader because of his homosexuality.

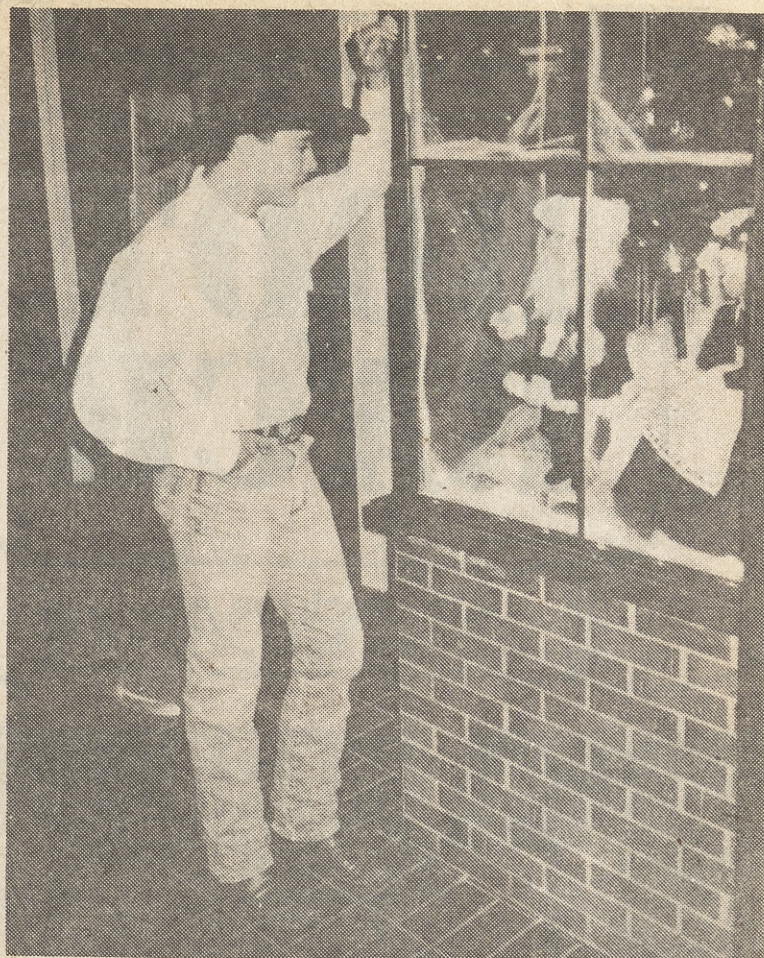
Curran maintains that his exclusion violated his right to public accommodations and fair procedural actions. The Boy Scouts say that they have rights to privacy and freedom of association.

BLAME IT ON YOUR FAMILY!

The Boston University Medical Center has released a study which indicates that homosexuality may run in families.

At the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sex, it was reported that 25% of the adult brothers of gay men were also gay, while only 4% of the adult brothers of straight men were gay. The study, which sampled 50 gay and 50 straight men, also indicated that gay men were more likely to have second and third degree relatives who were gay.

Researchers cautioned that the figures do not necessarily mean that there is a genetic link to homosexuality even though a hereditary factor appears to be strong.



The Coverperson for this month is Brook. This 22-year-old man has lived in Sacramento all his life and works in a store that specializes in western goods. When time permits, Brook rides thoroughbreds and likes to snow and water ski.



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AIDS RELATED RESEARCH FUNDED

A team of University of California, Davis scientists has been awarded \$221,183 to fund five new research projects on AIDS and a similar disorder in monkeys known as Simian AIDS (SAIDS).

The grants were part of a final \$1.7 million allocation of state money made recently to seven UC campuses by a University wide task force on AIDS. Altogether, the state has provided the University a total of \$3.1 million for AIDS related programs during the current fiscal year.

Coordinator of the UC Davis research team, Murry B. Gardner, M.D., described the new studies as a collaborative effort by medical, veterinary, and basic scientists to push toward the prevention and cure of AIDS.

"Davis is a unique resource in terms of our ability to work with the human virus and to integrate the resources and talent of our existing research program on animals," said Gardner.

Earlier this year, Davis researchers identified a type D retrovirus as the likely cause of a spontaneous outbreak of SAIDS in monkeys. A different type of retrovirus has been implicated as the causative agent in human AIDS. Both diseases dramatically cripple the immune systems of their respective hosts and are frequently fatal.

The Davis studies will tackle three major issues in AIDS research: the extent of the infection in the population, the distribution of the virus in the body, and the development of potential vaccines.

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SOUNDINGS

by Adam DuMonde
Election Aftermath

"Politics make strange bedfellows," is an often repeated saying. Nothing could be made more clear than the recent elections—and their aftermath.

There is at least one clear lesson for homosexual people to learn from the elections: To achieve long-sought gains, gay and lesbian people must broaden their political perspective. In short—except in some pocket areas—there is no bloc of gay/lesbian voters with enough impact to achieve "single issue" gains.

It took a coalition of gays working with renters to vote the successful creation of West Hollywood as a bonafide city.

Gays make up between 20% and 30% of the 1.9-square-mile West Hollywood area which bridges Hollywood and Beverly Hills. Tenants—gays, straights, and the elderly—represent 88% of the more than 20,000 registered voters in the area.

Many have hailed the West Hollywood incorporation as the creation of a "gay city." Three of the five councilpersons are openly gay, one is a 73-year-old "straight" woman. Four of the five are tenants. "Gay," yes; but in the words on one new councilperson, "The key issue is rent control." Yes, antidiscrimination ordinances are high on the new council's

agenda; but it would not be there if gays had not joined others to achieve a more broadly based political victory.

On the national scene, Ronald Reagan was elected with surprising gay support. In our personal conversations, before the election, with gays ranging from age 20 to late middle age, we were surprised to learn of what appeared to be significant gay support for President Reagan. Although a majority of gays probably supported the Mondale/Ferraro ticket, they did not do so as a solid "single issue" bloc. Gays were as much concerned about defense, the spread of atomic weapons, economic projections, taxes, and other matters as the rest of the electorate.

Whether or not you liked the national election results, the split in the gay vote shows that many gay and lesbian people look to other factors than just issues related to sexual orientation to make their political decisions.

Gays were proud when the Democratic Party officially recognized a Gay Caucus. Those days may soon come to an end. The recent meeting in the Virgin Islands of State Democratic Chairpersons and other party leaders resulted in what appears to be a move away from

the New Deal political legacy. The Democrats have learned from the Republicans that to win the White House they must appeal to the broad middle class—which is mostly white and protestant.

Will gays lose if this shift occurs? No one knows for sure. But, single-issue politics seems to be on its death bed. As a result, gays and lesbians probably should look at the whole political horizon and somehow seek to advance their causes within the larger political framework.

For example—protection of the rights of gay and lesbian people is not a "gay issue," but a human-rights issue. There are others. It is our task to convince the broad cross section of voters that they suffer too when the rights of any group are denied.

The 1984 elections are now history. Yes, we can pause a few weeks, perhaps. But, if we want to gain our rights, the work must begin anew very soon, or we will slip and slide backwards as legislators meet during the coming two years to pass new laws.

And now, it's on to the elections of 1986 when we can make our choices again.

PHILOSOPHY

by Philip E. Ewoldsen

At Christmas, all roads lead home. The filled planes, packed trains, overflowing buses, crowded highways—all speak eloquently of a single destination: home. Despite the crowding, the delays, the confusion, we clutch our bright packages and beam out our anticipation. We are like birds driven by an instinct we only faintly understand—the hunger to be with our own.

We all head home—or do we? For some, there is no way to get home; distance and cost make it prohibitive. For others, death has claimed the family. For still others, there is no welcome at home, only misunderstanding and pain over honesty about lifestyles; they have been disowned because a given in their lives has wiped away home forever.

I'm lucky. I not only have beautiful memories of growing up in a neat family with Christmas traditions of our own—balloons and life savors and a birthday cake for Jesus. I have those beautiful memories, and I also have beautiful parents who know all about me and love me

just the same. There have been pains in that process, for in the middle of a family that has gotten involved in the gay movement is also a brother who wonders and questions and one who rejects. I love them all. I have no control over their reactions, and I hope and pray eventually a Christmas will come when we can celebrate again as a whole family. But I celebrate so much. And while I/we celebrate, there are others who are depressed—more people are depressed and more people commit suicide during the Christmas holiday season than any other time of the year.

For all of us, there is also a second family to celebrate the holidays with—our gay and lesbian families. We as a people have the opportunity to build our own families, friendship families held together by shared interests, mutual acceptance, common lifestyles, sisterly/brotherly love. And these chosen families can bring life and happiness and love into our lives. Especially at

Christmas, we need to be aware of these chosen families—that NO ONE in our community spends Christmas eve alone, spends Christmas Day in tears, spends the Christmas holidays depressed and with growing bitterness.

Yes, at Christmas the heart goes home—to our homes where we were born and raised, and to the homes we share with our chosen families. Those of us with happy memories and open homes need to share our lives, our love, our celebrations with those who grew up in pain or as adults have been denied their homes—and for whom Christmas can be an empty day, to dread, a memory to forget.

This year, we can each make a difference. Look around you and find those in your chosen family who will be alone, expand that circle of family and draw others in—expand your celebration and begin together building new holiday memories—happy, joyful ones. Yes, reach out and share your lives, your celebrations, your love.

My Recipe for Health & Longevity

by Galen Moon
(age 82)

Is it because we think we're nearing the end of the road that we close our eyes and ears to the clamor of needs and opportunities to aid younger members of our community? Are we so resentful of the struggles and problems we ourselves worked through that we want the youth of today to suffer the same way we did?

Pray Heaven that is not true. But, if it is not true, why aren't all of us working to change the social and educational modes and mores which continue to threaten and frighten emerging lesbians and gays?

I know how to keep myself young and active and interested in living: By participating in activities and programs aimed at helping others to achieve awareness of their personal worth. By getting involved outside of one's own little selfish realm causes the things we tell others to begin coming true in our own lives. We begin to prove that homosexuals can live within today's formula and be appreciated by gays and non-gays alike.

You really have nothing to lose. They can't take away your social-security check or retirement benefits. What else is worth worrying about? You can't get fired from retirement; and by this time, you should have learned that real friends are friends regardless of whom or what you are. Neighbors or the local preacher or a relative should have enough to look after without worrying why yours is a same-sex household, or whatever it is that makes you afraid to do what needs doing.

There is much for you to gain. Your physical and mental health will be stimulated and improved by new activities which you know are benefiting others.

On what grounds do you excuse yourself from the battle to remove the label of second-class citizens, and the threats to the social health of this nation? Is it right for you to allow the disease of intolerance to continue through the myths and lies and bigotry and false teachings which go unchallenged?

What I suspect, from responses to my invitations to get involved, is that most of us are so selfish and egocentric that we refuse to see beyond our own self-perpetuated miseries. We're afraid of change, even though it promises desirable rewards. The very thought of taking responsibility for some action and effort not connected with our own physical comfort seems to frighten us.

"I've got all I can do to take care of myself" is the usual reply I get when I ask for help with programs aimed at relieving suffering and depression in others.

Over and over, I tell my peers that what keeps me going, what keeps me young at eighty-two is the filling of my life so full of others' needs and problems that there is no time left to fret and hurt about myself. Getting up early and preparing breakfast and lunch for our college student is the beginning of my day which is followed by driving several miles to the office where I am the out-front public representative of a striving

lesbian/gay community-service organization. Board meetings, committee meetings, writing a column for the Patlar, church activities, instigator/coordinator and sometimes facilitator for various raps and discussions, keeping in touch with and arranging for shared benefits with the several gay/lesbian student unions in a half dozen area schools of higher education make full days and weeks and months. Such things allow no time or energy for the sinful/criminal "me" thoughts which I am convinced make the inevitable movement toward the grave both faster and painful.

Try it. It works. Many years ago, I turned from the prospect of a limited, hampered life resulting from an operation they said would make the use of a cane necessary for the remainder of my life. Not for me. I had already become aware of the bigotry and falsehoods being used against homosexuals. To do what I could in the struggle for freedom for others became my reason for living and walking and using all my faculties and abilities. Oppressors hesitate sometimes about publicly threatening or ridiculing a white-haired, soft-spoken old man of eighty-two. So, it's true; I do get by with much which might bring penalties to younger folk.

That's an advantage all you idle, lonely, unhappy brothers and sisters can also apply. I invite every one of you to become members of the Society of Senior Gay and Lesbian Citizens and to find health and love and sex and reason for living. Together we can help bring harmony and understanding to this fragmented society in which many members of "our family" are enslaved by fear.

TONY ALEXANDER



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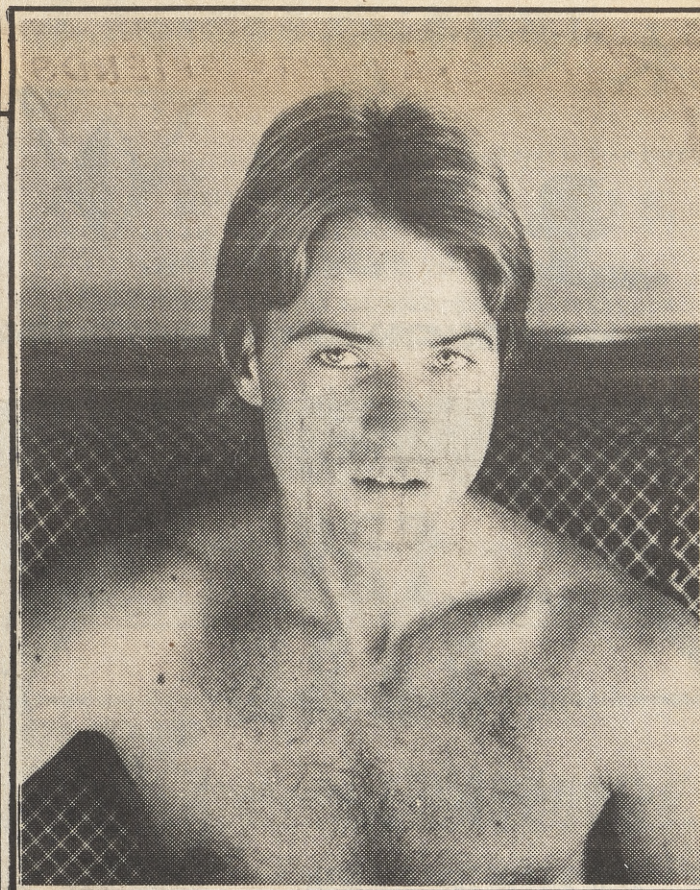
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Oh, I do adore adore the Holidays! They're so very gay! (I saw Daddy kissing Santa Claus!) But, doll, plan ahead. (Me, I'm always behind—oooh!) The cooking, the shopping, wrapping, trimming (trim my spruce and I'll trim yours)—the mad social whirl. And, unless one is blessed with a sugar daddy, Sugar Plum, there's still le job. What's a girl to do?

Well, I for one plan a single blow out (oh come all ye faithful) party and focus my culinary energies on it. During the rest of the season, I simplify as much as possible having found more than a few quick tricks to satisfy my appetites and those of my fairy good friends. The one trick which remains publishable is stir frying—fast, fresh and exotic (everything you asked Santa for).

My stirring performances always include a bottle of hot saki to ward off the winter chill and warm the cockles, chop sticks to stick in one's chop and, of course, my dragon lady, red-silk kimono. Very festive and very fast.

So, dears, make it easy on yourself, stir you heart out and make fairy merry with:

**MEAT ME
UNDER THE MISTLETOE**
(Beef in Mustard Sauce)

LET IT SNOW SHRIMP
(Shrimp with Snow Peas)

JINGLE BALLS CHICKEN
(Chicken with Mushrooms)

HOT RICE

HOT SAKI

CHRISTMAS COOKIES

COGNAC

AND SO TO BED!

MEAT ME UNDER THE MISTLETOE

(Serves: 4)

Ingredients:

- 1 lb sirloin steak, 1 1/2 inches thick
- 2 Tablespoons peanut oil
- 8 scallions, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1/4 cup beef broth (canned is fine, dear)
- 2 Tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 1 Tablespoon lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon coarsely ground black pepper
- 3 cups hot cooked rice

Preparation:

1. Cut the steak into 1 x 1/4-inch strips.
2. Heat one tablespoon oil in a wok or frying pan over high heat. (This meat likes it hot!)
3. Throw in your meat and stir it around for 1 or 2 minutes till medium rare. Remove with a slotted spoon and keep warm.

4. Heat the remaining Tablespoon of oil. Toss in the scallions. Stir-fry for 1 minute.

5. Add the broth, mustard, lemon juice, salt and pepper. Bring to a boil.

6. Pour your sauce over your meat and serve it all over rice.

LET IT SNOW SHRIMP

(Serves: 4)

The fruits of the sea in a recipe that will pull your salt water taffy. (I do wish you a white Christmas! Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!)

Ingredients:

- 1 pound fresh shrimp

Marinade:

- 1 Tablespoon saki or dry sherry
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon peeled and minced, fresh ginger root
- 1 Tablespoon cornstarch
- 2 teaspoons sesame oil

Seasoning Sauce:

- 2 Tablespoons chicken broth
- 6 Tablespoons water
- 1 teaspoon cornstarch
- 6 Tablespoons oyster sauce

- 3/4 cup vegetable oil
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 pound fresh snow peas (also called sugar peas, Sugar!)

Preparation:

1. Shell, devein, rinse and pat dry your shrimp.
2. Whisk together the marinade, add the shrimp, mix it up and let it stand for 30 minutes while you sip on some saki or

whatever else strikes your fancy!

3. Snap the ends (oooh!) off your peas, rinse and dry them

4. Toss together the seasoning sauce.

5. Heat your oil in a wok or frying pan over high heat. Stir in your garlic and stir-guy for 30 seconds.

6. Throw in your shrimp and stir for 30 seconds until your shrimp are pink. Remove them with a slotted spoon.

7. Put the salt and peas in the wok, toss around for 30 seconds. Add the seasoning sauce and stir till slightly thickened.

8. Add the shrimp and stir-fry to coat with your sauce.

9. Serve hot with hot rice.

JINGLE BALLS CHICKEN

(Serves: 4)

After a hard day (or night) cruising the stores, pick up a chicken and head for home. This bird's done in two jingles, maybe three!

Ingredients:

- 2 whole chicken breasts, skinned, boned and cut into 1/2-inch cubes

- 1 teaspoon salt

- 1/4 teaspoon white pepper

- 4 teaspoons cornstarch

- 4 Tablespoons oil

- 2 thin slices of peeled ginger root, minced

- 2 cups whole, fresh button mushrooms (larger mushrooms may be cut in half)

- 1 green pepper, seeded and cut into strips, and the strips cut in half (lots of cutting, dear!)

- 4 teaspoons cornstarch dissolved in 4 Tablespoons chicken broth

Preparation:

1. Mix up the salt, pepper and cornstarch and toss your bird in it to coat

2. Heat your oil over high to med-high heat till hot.

3. Add the ginger root and stir-fry for 30 seconds

4. Add the chicken and stir-fry till all traces of pink are gone. Remove the chicken with a slotted spoon. Hang on to your bird!

5. Add the mushrooms and green pepper and stir-fry for 1 1/2 minutes.

6. Put your chicken back into the pan, add the cornstarch and broth mixture and stir till thickened.

7. Serve hot with hot rice.

Have a fairy merry Holiday season, dears. And don't miss next month's column: HOT AND HEAVY! Till next we eat, yummy down and kiss kiss...

The Kitchen Fairy

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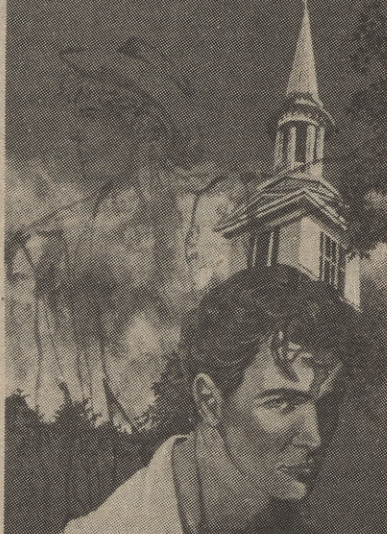
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Firestorm

Gerald Wening, Alyson Publications,
Boston, MA, 177 pp. \$5.95 (paper).

Reviewed by Jay Harrison

Take a handsome, young farmer whose wife is off visiting her folks, let him spend a day sweating alongside his sunny helper, the preacher's boy, and what will you have by day's end? A double declaration of love, that's what!

Who catches them, a few weeks later, going at it, groaning with pleasure, their bodies clasped together in sexual union? Marie, the farmer's wife who says in what must be one of the great understatements of all times, "Matt...our marriage is over."

Matt, the country lad, and Jim, the rabid preacher's son, run away to a

nearby city to set up a life of their own. There Jim is hounded by his father, and Matt by guilt for leaving his wife and three-year-old son.

Although Wening practices no subtlety, he tries with broad, often trite, situations to illustrate both the bad and the good sides of being gay in a repressive society.

On the positive side is, first, the love Matt and Jim have for each other (although their minds rarely seem to be on it) and the gay support groups ready to help.

The negative side is represented most powerfully by Jim's minister father, a satanic homophobe, and by the ugly street world of hustlers. Handled by a more persuasive writer, this opposite-doubling could have been stunning. Actually, it is only superficial.

But the Reverend Renalski (Jim's unsmiling father) is a voice worth hearing, if only because we're going to hear more of it in the coming years. He takes his text directly from such as Jerry Falwell and Dr. W. A. Criswell (First Baptist Church of Dallas), both guests at the 1984 Republican Convention, and by inference, on the side of Right. Like skinning a rabbit, which is the way religious hypocrisy works, Renalski has reversed Christian kindness into unrelenting hatred.

It is this blind hatred, no prettier than the crime-drunken hustlers' scene, that precipitates the final horror—the firestorm of the book's title.

Despite a few gripping moments, and a few tender ones, *Firestorm* promises more than it delivers. Gerald Wening—or someone at Alyson Publications—mistakes sensationalism for irony, cliché for complexity, and action for theme.

Like Alyson's careless proofreading, Wening's lack of understanding of the novel form can be corrected; any basic text or college creative writing course could teach him how to control point of view, for instance—his most self-destructive problem. In a sort of literary masochism, he continually pulls the box out from under himself, leaving us to view the dangling body. This is, presumably, Matt the farmer's story; but because of the spastic point of view, we can never get close enough to him to care. Just when it seems we're about to move in, Wening jerks away the box again. Matt remains a nice, uninteresting guy, first to last.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Sexism, homophobia, and other sexual fears are rooted in lack of self-acceptance; they are all rooted in a person's fear of her/his genitals.

The ultimate solution is prevention. The only real hope for that lies with children. Family nudism is the first step in the right direction.

The police and social workers have attacked us for trying to share that message. We now really need the help of many more people.

Remember the words of Virginia Woolf: It is clothes that wear us and not we them; they mould our hearts, our brains, our tongues....

Sincerely,

Marc Schuyten for

"Families—Naturally" magazine

2483 Emerson Drive,

Corona, CA 91720

Grandfather's Cupboard

by Charles E. Hall, Ph. D.
Practitioner of
Traditional Chinese Medicine
©1984

(Note: This column is dedicated to acquainting its readers with the contents of our grandfathers' cupboards: the old time foods, herbs, and exercises which our ancestors used to keep themselves in good health.)

QUINTESENCE OF FLAVORS

"Variety is the spice of life which gives it all its flavor," said Alexander Pope a few hundred years ago. And so it is with the Five Element Diet. The first rule of the diet is: Eat in variety—a little of this, a little of that, and some more of the other.

The Chinese medical theory, Five Elements, describes most of the human body functions as five parted: wood, fire, earth, metal, and water. In food, these same five elements describe a way to eat to keep healthy. Now, I don't know yet which vitamins and minerals of Western nutrition are concerned with which five elements, but I'm sure there is a relationship. After all, it's all food; and it digests and is transformed into human bodies; so it is all the same somehow. As multiple vitamins nourish the body in multiple ways, so a balanced five element meal nourishes a body in similar fashion.

In Western nutrition, we supposedly don't know what to eat until a biochemist rushes madly from his laboratory screaming, "Eureka, I have found IT!" His boss then bottles IT in pretty capsules and makes a fortune off Vitamin IT.

Oriental nutrition proceeds a little differently. A diet fanatic—called a sage—goes on a water fast for three or four days, then eats a big meal of food X. Then he sits down to meditate on what happens inside his body. In due time, he has his revelation; and then he tells everyone what element of his body was affected and how.

Metal Element

Now I have a done a little of this too. Not fasting so much as just feeling and being aware of my own body after eating. Metal element foods and flavors make my nose a little runny. They flush my mucus system. This can be observed by anyone. The flavor of the metal element is pungent or "hot," as we sometimes say. Hot peppers make the nose run and the eyes water. So does horser-

adish. A little ginger root chopped up and boiled in water for a while breaks up the stuffy nose of a cold with chills and makes the body warm. If the cold is feverish, add honey; but don't confuse chills and fevers. They are two different kinds of colds.

In Five Elements, pungent is the flavor of the metal element which affects the lungs, large intestine, the skin, and the mucus fluids. Garlic is also pungent and will work wonders on skin and lung diseases.

Fire Element

Bitter is the flavor of the fire element and is found in many things, especially coffee and tea. Bitter herbs used to be made into herbal tonics in old Europe. Bitters tone up the heart and small intestine and make us feel joyful, the emotion associated with the fire element. Madison Avenue hypes coffee as a pickmeup. Tea ads have a smiling old lady about to taste her cup of happy afternoon tea.

Coca Cola's original formula had gentian root bitters to make "things go better." So do most cola soft drinks. How many people have put down their pop bottles and said, "Now let's get out there and tackle that job." People really do feel better after bitters.

The bitters I use is Angostura. My slogan is, "There's a smile all day in a shake of Angostura." And if you want to quit coffee or black teas because of their bad side effects, try a shake of bitters in a cup of hot water with some honey. You'll feel good for a long time. It's dietary psychotherapy. Hops is also a bitter, and beer is the drink of picnics and orgies the world over.

Water Element

Saltiness is the flavor of the water element. Not regular table salt. This is poisonous to people with high blood pressure or edema. I recommend sea salt, which is a balance of various chemical salts. Interestingly, too, it has the same balance of mineral salts as human blood. After a hot, sweaty day or a high fever, sea salt cooked into your food restores the salt balance of the blood.

Another way of getting saltiness is to ferment food with much salt. This is an ancient tradition in both Europe and the Orient. Among Western foods, sauerkraut and pickles come to mind; and among Eastern foods, there are soy sauce, tamari, miso, and pickled daikon.

Earth Element

Sweet is the flavor of the earth element and contentment is its emotion. Honey, dates, and fruits offer sweetness. A lot of sweetness puts us to sleep

with a smile on our faces—the ultimate "centered" feeling. White sugar, however, is a chemical which clogs the mucus system, rots the teeth, and poisons the body. Half the depressive psychoses in America are caused by white sugar.

Wood Element

The fifth flavor is sour like vinegar, lemon juice, and grapefruit. Walking up with a sour taste in the mouth is indicative of liver and gall bladder ailments. The body's wood element is out of whack. Sour is a flavor of fermentation and acids like buttermilk, yogurt, sourdough bread, and good white wines.

Tasting the Five Elements

One of the secrets of Oriental gourmet cooking is having all five flavors present in the same dish. Not all the flavors are equally tasteable, but all are present, sometimes in the tiniest amounts. Sea salt and cayenne pepper are typical subtle flavorings. The most minute pinch will balance the taste of the dish. A touch of honey in a salad dressing harmonizes the flavors of the salad. The merest suggestion of orange or lemon peel perks up a dessert.

I can't tell you what happens inside your body when the flavors get there, but something occurs. As you think of tasting, notice how you drool and your saliva prepares to digest something tasty. Precisely what happens has not been the subject of laboratory science, and Western nutritionists have totally ignored this aspect of food. But something takes place that stirs the vital core of our beings and turns on our stomachs.

It is the function of the spleen meridian to activate our taster and whet our appetite for the missing nutrition and food. A healthy spleen meridian complex (earth element) will make you hunger for some food or other. When you feel this hunger, begin tasting things. When you find the food that satisfies your hunger, eat a meal of it. When you have had enough, your taste will cloy and the message to the brain and mouth will be "Stop!"

Diseases of the spleen are usually characterized by monotonous eating habits. These ailments cause us to eat just to fill our bodies. They are also often brought on by narrow, restrictive diets.

Every food has a unique, vital essence. Eating in variety gives you benefit of these essences and vitamins. For your next snack, eat something different. Tonight take a friend or your new lover to a different restaurant. Then taste something bitter and go home. . .



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For The Record, and More...

by Michael J. Maier

SWEPT AWAY DIANA ROSS

Produced by:
Diana Ross
RCA

It has been sometime since we have been given a noteworthy album from superstar Diana Ross. At last that wait has been SWEPT AWAY. This current release is a successful attempt at a new and youthful sound, which tastefully borrows elements from Lionel Richie, Daryl Hall, Culture Club, and the Pointer Sisters, creating a new consumer market for Miss Ross which can be seen visually as well by the new techno-pop look that Diana is sporting these days.

The album SWEPT AWAY opens with an unmistakable Lionel Richie production entitled "Missing You," dedicated to the late Marvin Gaye, which was written and produced by Richie. Ross' delivery is a heart felt joy of love and peace that could not help but make me remember the Diana Ross which so many of us had come to love and admire.

"Touch By Touch," the LP's second cut, is a light breeze of Caribbean/Culture Club sounds which bounces along to Ross' crisp vocals. Cut number three, "Rescue Me," is a blast of a memorable past with Diana lending a gutsy soul style to this finger snapper. "It's Your Move" continues in a lighter pace and mode. The album's title track, "Swept Away," written and co-produced by Daryl Hall and prominent producer Arthur Baker, is a pop rock dance floor packer by which Ross gives us a performance directly taken from the 1979 LP, THE BOSS.

SWEPT AWAY is not one of Ross' best albums, but it is the best in recent years. It should open the doors for a new generation of Ross fans, and it should also keep those of us who have always followed and loved her happy once again.

INSTINCTS ROMEO VOID

Produced by:
David Kahne
COLUMBIA

Arrogance and sexual decadence runs strong through every cut of this new wave punk rock album created by San Francisco's Romeo Void.

After listening to this LP, one would think that this is not an American group, for it does not imitate the normally bland aspects of American rock. In this case, it is the opposite, for Romeo Void blends an interesting mixture of freshness and rawness into a unique style which brings forth creativity in every track.

The group has never enjoyed the great commercial success due them, mainly for their brash sound and appearance which has never been totally accepted by American pop culture until recently, though through the success of "Never Say Never," they have become a mainstay in the punk/new wave dance realms for the past three years. Their new album, "Instincts," should with its urban sophistication bring solid commercial exposure, especially with the LP's first number, "Girl In Trouble (Is A Temporary Thing)," which speaks for itself and should become a classic in progressive rock annals.

"Out On My Own," "Just Too Easy," "Say No," and "Your Life Is A Lie" are all racy dance tunes which also reflect the lifestyle of the punk sub-culture. Each cut contains a haunting and melodic saxophone, along with the bold brash vocal style of lead singer Debora Iyall.

This is an album which any person who enjoys style and progressive sophistication should have.

Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor:

I am trying to find out the legal age for consensual homosexual acts in each state of the USA. If your readers have any idea where I can find this information, I would like to know. At present, I am asking gay organizations in various states of the USA, but the information comes in slowly, and sometimes does not agree with other information already received. If your readers have this information, even for a few states, this would be useful.

Another area that I am interested in is important gay events scheduled to take place during 1985 and 1986. We never get to hear of these until just before or just after they happen. If your readers know of any, such as gay pride marches, that would be of interest to visitors to the USA, please do let me have details, or encourage the organizers to let me know in good time.

Both lots of information are needed for the Spartacus International Gay Guide and Spartacus Travel Magazine. I will be visiting the USA again soon, but if your readers can let me have information on either areas of interest before my next visit, this would be fine.

With the kindest regards of the Spartacus team.

Yours sincerely,

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Listening To Lavender

by Madame Lavender Cantello

Dear Lavender,

Charlie, my lover whose real name is Ruth Ellen, and I have had a terrible squabble. I'm thinking seriously of moving out on her because there are some things up with which I simply will not put. And this latest idea of hers is a good example of what I mean.

We live in a neighborhood filled with a lot of elderly people. One of them is Ernest. Ernest is ninety-two years old and we've been planning a big do for his ninety-third birthday which is coming up soon.

The other day Ernest called in the middle of the morning and said that he was lonely for "a little female companionship" so could he come over for awhile. Naturally, I said yes. After all, I am a housewife and the prospect of a coffee break and a short gossip session is usually appealing.

Well, Lavender, what he had in mind for "a little female companionship" was a shocker. I won't go into details except to say that he wanted me to indulge in an activity with him which the Lord intended only for procreational purposes. I was both hurt and shocked and ordered him out of my sight in no uncertain terms. And all plans for the birthday party were cancelled post haste.

Charlie has not been sympathetic about the situation. She thinks that I should have indulged the old geezer and then made him hand over his Social Security check. She insists that he doesn't need all that money anyhow, and if I'd get in the habit of earning a little moola on the side that soon we'd be able to buy a new car.

Lavender, what would you do in this situation? I'd value your opinion.

Eunice
(Montpellier)

Eunice,

What I would do and what any normal woman might do in this situation vastly differ. Not only would I take the old geezer's advances, I would

try to make a little on the side—maybe set up a clientele. Fulfilling needs of the lonely appeals to me.

Another woman just might well move out! And with your attitude and demeanor, I think that would be best. Just get out!

Dear Lavender,

I've been married to Art for twenty years. Secretly, I'm planning to leave him as soon as my youngest is old enough to understand. That'll be awhile yet.

In the meantime, for sexual fulfillment I am compelled to turn to some of the other housewives in this neighborhood. Over the years I've developed close friendships with several nice local women. My two favorites are the sweet wife of one of the neighborhood protestant ministers and the gas-pump attendant who showed me your column.

My husband is very suspicious of me. He knows that I had a short lesbian fling in college (this was before we were married), but he knows nothing about my clandestine activities since then. Lately he has started examining my pelvic area very carefully before each intercourse. When I ask him why, he just says that he's looking for something.

Lavender, what do you suppose he's looking for?

Orlanda
(Mt. Juliet)

Dear Orlanda,
Probably crabs! But possibly a grey hair or two. Even a telling drip! But the whole thing does indeed sound strange. If he ever tells you, please let me know.

Dear Mrs. Cantello,

Rusty is driving me bananas. We've been lovers for three weeks now and he's talking, almost constantly, about moving in.

But, Lavender, I'm not so sure I want him for a lover because when he French kisses me, I feel compelled to open my eyes just to see if he has his eyes open which he always does. And when I look

into his open eyes at such close range, well, I get terrified and immediately lose my hard-on.

Lavender, do you suppose there's any hope of my teaching him to French kiss with his eyes closed? Somehow, French kissing with one's eyes open is almost like eating with one's mouth open. I've discussed the matter with him and he insists that it's all merely cultural and that in Puerto Rico where he grew up and first learned to French kiss that all the guys who French kissed him, and apparently a lot of them did French kiss him, did so with their eyes open. Suggestions please.

Oxnard
(Walla Walla)

Oxnard,

And just why are your own eyes open, dear? Sounds like you need one of those "how to get close" weekends. The incredible power of penetrating eyes melts my drawers with delight. I'd go along with the Puerto Rican method, if I were you, and let him do it anyway he wants...anywhere he wants...anytime he wants!

Dear Lavender,

Your advice last month to Benjamin (the college student who was so distracted by his professor that he couldn't keep his mind on his studies and was afraid that he was going to flunk) was all wet. I don't think you took the poor guy's problem seriously. Shame on you!

I too had a similar problem, but my mother taught me how to handle it. Lavender, listen and learn.

When I was an undergraduate I was straight and was beside myself over my math prof. Mom pestered me about my low grades in the class because I'd always been such a good math student. Well, when I confided in her, she sat me down with a mirror and proceeded to teach me to flash. And that did it. After I had flashed in class a few times, not only did that marvelous prof end up teaching me all about differential equations, he also taught me quite a bit about the marvels of sex.

Then when I was in graduate school, (I have a Ph.D. in Physical Education), I decided to become a lesbian but didn't know really how to go about it. So with a favorite prof whom I suspected of being "sympathetic" and who was teaching me weight lifting, I tried the flashing routine again. And again, that did it. She ended up giving me special lessons in how to achieve vaginal orgasms.

So you see, Lavender, you should have advised Benjamin to try a little flashing with his prof. It's a guaranteed procedure; and with those white short shorts he wrote about, well, what could be easier?

Florence
(Pomona)

Dear Dear Florence,

Obviously your mother never graduated from the Keith Ann School of Charm, of which I am an alumna. At KASC, we women of quality were taught that flash and trash have their places, but those places are definitely not in the classroom.

I'm glad that you've managed to improve your orgasms.

Now, I'm not one who is afraid to get down and get dirty when I've got the chance. Goodness knows! But it's so much better to tantalize the libido rather than flaunt it. It seems to me that it all boils down to a matter of choice: either one can opt for dignity or one can opt to give the impression that one is out to screw any and everything that will hold still long enough to be grabbed hold of. Whatever, lay on and good luck.

GAME CORNER

TRIVIAL TRIAL

1. What is the largest mammal now living on earth?

- a. whale
- b. monkey
- c. man
- d. dog

2. What team won the first world series?

- a. Pittsburg Patriots in 1915

- b. Boston Red Sox in 1903
- c. New York Giants in 1920
- d. Brooklyn Dodgers in 1923

3. The Perry Como Show ran on television for how many years?

- a. 24
- b. 2
- c. 15
- d. 0

4. Name the state in which bourbon originated.

- a. New York
- b. Texas
- c. Kentucky
- d. Nevada

5. What travels at 186,284 miles per second?

- a. Light
- b. Speedboats
- c. Sound
- d. Jet planes

6. The film titled THE BIBLE was directed by whom?

- a. John Huston
- b. Art Hitchcox
- c. Paul Barret
- d. John Ford

7. On what coin does the image of Monticello appear?

- a. dime
- b. half dollar
- c. quarter
- d. nickel

8. Name the state which has the most millionaires.

- a. New York
- b. California
- c. Texas
- d. Nevada

9. Where is the nation's silver stored?

- a. Smithsonian
- b. Ft. Meade
- c. Mt. Rushmore
- d. West Point

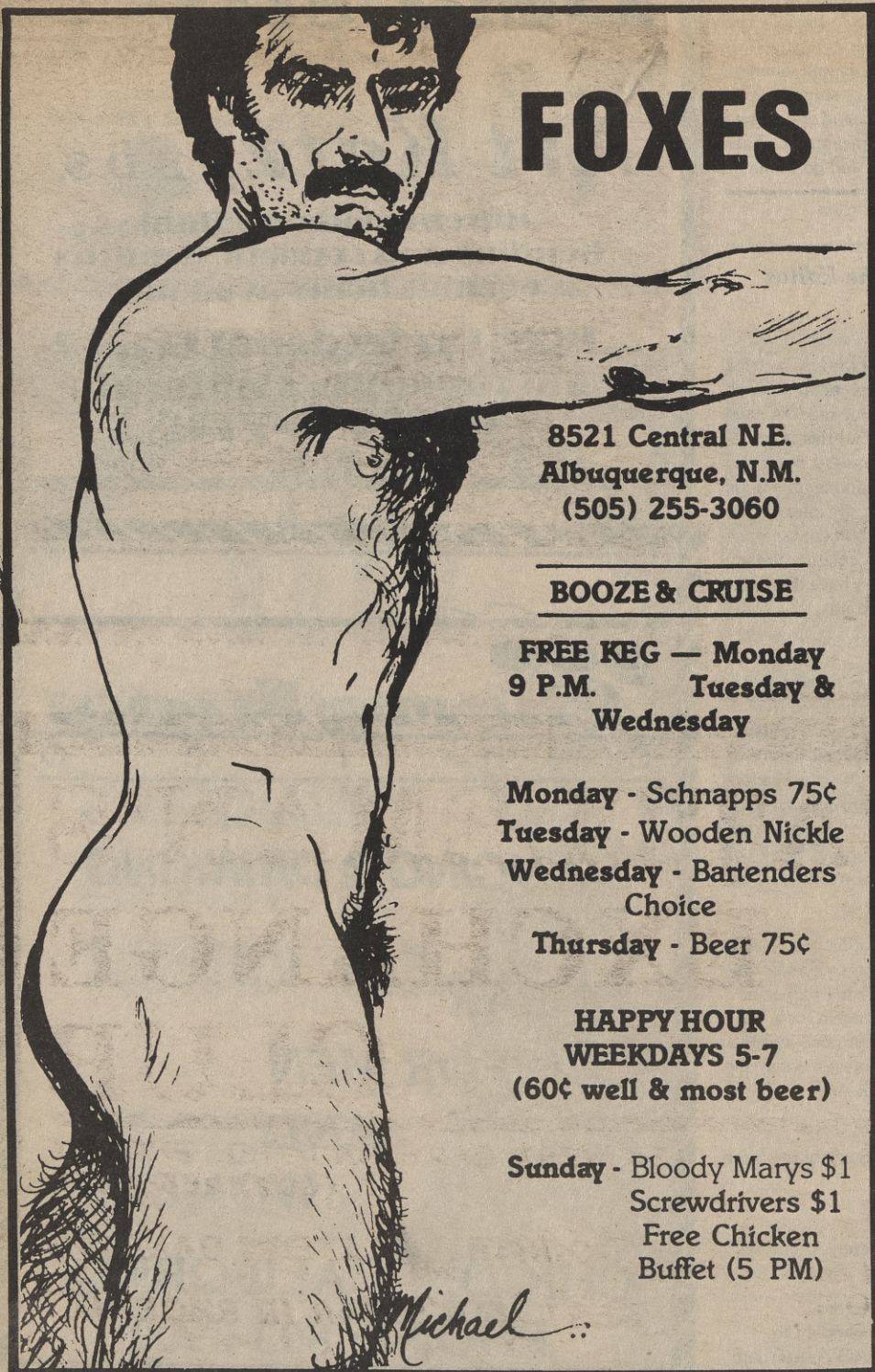
10. In which state is the Carlsbad Caverns National Park located?

- a. Virginia
- b. New Mexico
- c. Wyoming
- d. Arizona

Answers To

Game Corner

- 1. a; 2. b; 3. c; 4. c; 5. a;
- 6. a; 7. d; 8. a; 9. d; 10. b.



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Horoscopes For The Horny

by Dr. Pat Larr

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21): Keep those roving hands out of warm, moist places. Hanky Panky with a hot tamale could lead to hot water.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20): Have you stepped into the Twilight Zone? Seems like it right now. Mars turns everything topsy turvey right now. Lay low, your favorite position anyway.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 18): Lots of dirty work coming your way right now. Take care of it quickly so you'll have more time to get down and dirty with that special someone later.

PICES (Feb 19-Mar 20): It's a good thing you don't object to being treated like a sex object, because you'll get lots of practice this month. The object? Romance.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 19): You'll have to harden more than your heart this month. Someone hunky, but totally wrong for you, wants to get in your pants. Keep a zipper on it.

TAURUS (Apr 20-May 20): Stiffen your resolve and you'll finally got that troublesome person out of your life; don't let them back in no matter how they beg.

GEMINI (May 21-Jun 20): Anxious arms reach out to touch someone. Beware of a long-distance lovers. The rates go up after dark and you may have to reverse the charges.

CANCER (Jun 21-Jul 22): Keep a low profile. Romance will be in the spotlight, but unfortunately the spotlight will be on a policeman's car.

LEO (Jul 23-Aug 22): Venus in your House of Romance will have that special someone singing "All Night Long" all night long. Yes, your endurance will be appreciated.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sep 22): Just when you thought you'd never find someone new, fate takes you by the hand and you find there's more to come.

LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 22): A high voltage affair shorts circuits. Sparks fly; but don't worry, your powerlines won't be down long.

SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 22): A sensuous water sign showers you with affection. Don't expect this affair to last too long. If their motto is "Slippery when wet," let yours be, "Hard to hold."

NEW HRCF OFFICIALS NAMED

In Washington, D.C., Vic Basile, Executive Director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF), recently announced the election of Duke Comegys and Vivian Shapiro as co-chairs of the Campaign Fund's Board of Directors.

The HRCF is a political action committee that assists congressional candidates who are committed to the support of gay and lesbian civil rights. The organization was formed to promote human rights and individual freedom.

Mr. Comegys, from Los Angeles, is a fundraiser for many gay and charitable causes and an investor and art collector. He is also vice president of the Board of the Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center of Los Angeles.

"I'm honored to be able to work in such an active role with the Fund, which in just a short time has become a vital and effective organization," said Mr. Comegys.

Ms. Shapiro was a fundraiser for Chuck Hitchcock, the first openly gay candidate to run for Congress from New York's First District, and for New York City Councilman David Rothenberg.

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William Tell Reviews:

"Jobsite"

This month I had the pleasure of viewing **"Jobsite"**, a really well made porno flic with an original story line which goes something like this.

Ted, a military student, receives a telegram from his late grandfather's attorney. After flying to LA to claim his inheritance, Ted is informed by the attorney that very little is left of his grandfather's estate. A house owned by his grandfather has \$25,000 due in back taxes. The only other items of value left include a lunch wagon and a money-losing bar. Ted is persuaded by the attorney to sign a note for a \$5000 advance against anything derived from the estate. Too late, Ted discovers the note transfers title of the house and bar to the attorney if the \$5000 are not paid within 60 days.

Ted decides to visit his soon-to-be-lost house where he meets his campy Uncle Charley. Charley reveals that he has been using the house as a male whorehouse "to make ends meet." Charley confirms that the attorney is a crook,

and he is determined to help Ted raise the \$25,000 due in taxes before the house is lost in the sleazy deal.

The "deal" hinges on the success of sending hot, young men (via the lunch wagon) to job sites where they will service construction workers. The lunch service is a phenomenal success with a menu that includes open-faced sandwiches and 12-inch tube steaks at \$25 each.

After a few weeks, Ted and Charley are able to accumulate the \$25,000 and pay off the overdue taxes, much to the chagrin of the crooked attorney. Ted's inheritance is saved. A bonus for Ted is the refurbishing of the bar and its subsequent success as a gay western bar catering to—you guessed it—construction workers!

What separates this film from most all-male pornos is that it has an amusing plot, but still provides plenty of action with its stable of hot, well hung men.

"Jobsite" on cassette may be rented in Sacramento at **FILMS FOR DAYS**.

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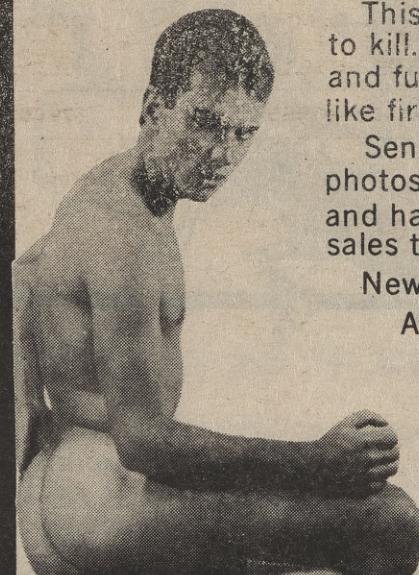
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FANTASY CAPSULE

by Mark M. Forston
Something Special

It was nearing the holiday season, and Tom was feeling a terrible loneliness. This would be his first Christmas without Kenny. Tom and Kenny had been together for over thirty years. They met all those many years ago and had been lovers ever since.

Earlier that year, Kenny had come down with a terminal illness and had passed away. This broke Tom's heart, losing his longtime friend and lover.

Somehow the coming of Christmas had no meaning. The joy that had made the season bright was gone now. There would be no one to share the holidays with.

As Christmas came nearer, Tom withdrew into a state of melancholia. Memories of the past years intruded and brought nothing but a deep sense of loss that he couldn't dispell. He loved the holidays when Kenny was alive. Their house had always been alive and decorated with the spirit of that special time. Friends would often drop by to share the season with them.

Alone, Tom began to address his Christmas cards. But when it came time to sign his name, he couldn't do it. He could only sign both names. He started to cry and then he put the cards away.

No one really knew the terrible pain of loneliness that now haunted him. It was always worse at night when he was alone.

One day, Tom decided that life was no longer worth living without Kenny. He made up his mind to join him.

Tom went out for a walk in the park that night. He was drawn to the spot in the park where they had arranged their first rendezvous. It was a very cold night.

Frost covered the trees and grass. In the light of the street lights, the whole park sparkled like a million diamonds. A magic spell had settled over the park.

Up ahead, in the brightness of the lights, in a white mist, came a beautiful lady. She almost seemed to float as she glided toward him. As the lady neared, she spoke out Tom's name. There was a strange light around her. Her voice was soft and it seemed to comfort him and give him an inner peace. She said softly, "I know you're sad and lonely, Tom, but don't despair, I can help you." Tom put out his hand in trust and touched the lady. "I have the power to grant you one Christmas wish," she said, smiling. Tom closed his eyes and thought of that day more than thirty years earlier.

Suddenly a very bright light, almost blinding, flashed before his eyes. When he opened them, it was spring. The trees were full of blossoms and the sky was a beautiful blue. Up ahead, waiting for him, was Kenny. He was smiling and looked the same as that day they first met. He ran to him, they embraced.

The sun had risen on the park, and frost began to melt and drip from the trees. Leading away from the park bench were two sets of footprints. They led off into the trees and simply disappeared.

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BOOK REVIEW

Familiar Faces, Hidden Lives,
Howard Brown, M.D., Harcourt
Brace Jovanovich, 1976.

Reviewed by Alex M. Vernon

Ever hear of Howard Brown, M.D.? In 1973 when he came out publicly, he was the most famous homosexual in the country. He had been a well-known public health officer and administrator in New York City, but his homosexuality cost him his job. His book, published in 1976, is this story along with the rest of his life story and those of more than a dozen other men; all are linked in that they all kept their gayness hidden, at a high psychic cost, and some led incredibly lonely lives. Some literally did not know another gay person until they got in touch with Dr. Brown.

Yes, this is not a new book—so why examine it when it speaks of conditions more than ten years ago? I think we have forgotten how it was then, and many younger gays have never heard how it was. We need this sense of the past. Also, we members of the gay community—whether living in an all-gay subculture or merely socializing with other gays in private—out of lack of information, ignore gay persons in places too small to have "gay communities." Too many of us forget the plight of the small town gay—the person who knows practically no other homosexual.

Brown, like many of the men in the book, became aware of his homosexual impulses early on but repressed them. At 18 he realized he was homosexual, but in this small northern Ohio town "homos were mysterious, evil people, to be avoided at all costs." He immersed himself in schoolwork so it was not until his third year in medical school that he acted on his feelings; he fell in love with a fraternity brother. Today they would have been very happy; then they couldn't accept their love and enjoy their relationship. Many of

us will crack a rueful grin at Brown's relating that he and his first love, Frank, tried to rid themselves of their gayness through trying to study hard and never mentioning the subject in the hope that "it might just go away." Brown could not accept his homosexuality; he marched off to the head of the psychiatry department and told him he was gay, which ended the relationship.

Brown continued to feel the effects of his own homophobia, but his tortured existence lessened as he tentatively advanced in his profession, very much in the closet, and acquired a live-in lover. By 1966 when he became New York City's Commissioner of Health, he had a wide circle of gay friends mostly "passing" also, but was still in the closet. He was chosen for this very important political and administrative job by Mayor Lindsay; Brown was a very visible and powerful member of the establishment.

Only six months into the job, he became aware that reporters were investigating his private life, as well as those of other homosexuals prominent in the city administration. Brown could not afford to destroy the progress in public health work he had achieved or embarrass the Mayor so he resigned. The heart attack he had in 1972 scared him into reevaluating his life and choices. So it was that in 1973 he announced in an address about human sexuality to 600 fellow physicians that he was gay. People then were stunned that a doctor could be gay.

Because he had been a respected member of the establishment, this drew great notice in "television interviews and massive newspaper and magazine coverage." In this way he came to be a sort of leader and spokesperson for the gay movement then beginning; because of who he was, the straight community listened to him. Brown then wrote and traveled around the country speaking for gays and their civil rights.

Much of this book leaves one sad. It is touching that Brown died so soon after writing this book that he did not live long enough to fully claim the gay identity he had built for himself. His style of writing is extraordinarily good, especially for a doctor; he manages to be simple, straightforward and lucid, yet very expressive. I admire his way with words.

Brown talks mainly about himself at first. Now, it is hard to believe that he could live in fear as he says he did. Staying in the closet is one thing, but now such paranoia seems extraordinary. Not revealing one's homosexuality, keeping it to oneself and one's closest friends we can understand, but having to skulk about like a spy? Also, he paints the press and certain other parties as being so homophobic that they take the initiative and actively go out queer-hunting, seeing whose career and life they could ruin. But listen, for this was the way things were then.

Brown's years of loneliness and unhappiness will be echoed by those of the men who appear later in the book. Still, I find it surprising that "a years-long contemplation of suicide is typical of many homosexuals ... in the forties and fifties." As he works his way through coming out and parents, he begins to interpolate others' life histories. This aspect of his structure—hopping back and forth from himself to others—is confusing. There are so many sad stories, like the one of the small-town Daniel. His is excruciating: his Baptist minister father, on his son's high school graduation night, hands him \$25 and a one-way ticket to New York with the farewell, "Good luck. I hope I never hear from you again."

His chapter, "Married Homosexuals," makes us think. He shows us that married men who have been denying their homosexuality to themselves for years often become so bound up by this and caught in it that when the time comes to make a choice about their impulses—as when a man is forced to come to a decision by his wife's deserting

him—they cannot consider "becoming" gay. The concept is that when the opportunity to make a sea change presents itself they can no longer feel the irresistible yearnings of their natures and take advantage of the opportunity. Is it that over time their self-esteem has become ineluctably intertwined with denial? One would think that the years of unhappiness, all the pain, the sense of wasting their lives and their fulfillment would, in the end, goad them into exploring men. Brown has several sad examples, of which only one turns out happily.

I think he misrepresents married men somewhat: I would guess that the majority of married men who, even at that time, discover they are homosexual (and who are not neurotic, very dependent, have low self-esteem, etc.) realize they cannot ignore these feelings and change. One meets socially significant numbers of men once married, now divorced and gay; obviously they have fully embraced their homosexuality. Brown presents not a single, plucky example.

Of the next chapter, "Long-Term Relationships," I have another criticism about whom he excludes. Knowing this book was written eight years before McWhirter and Mattison's *The Male Couple*, I cannot fault Brown for his lack of information about male couples, but I can complain that the only long-term relationship he talks about is his own. He surely could have described, at least, another pattern of gay male relationships besides his own. And even in speaking of his own he is not candid enough to reveal it completely: after he gloats over its inception, he cheats the reader in dishonestly reserving the truth about its end, whatever it would be. So we must charge him with a lack of candor.

I'll turn to the title: *Hidden Lives*. Maybe it is to be expected that when we focus only on hidden lives we should expect to find hidden synonymous with unhappy. But what

good does it do to present such pain and sorrow? But this is the experience of him and his friends. Brown unfortunately does little or too little to present a positive gay identity and sense of self; that is not to be found here. What is to be gained by reading about these unhappy, repressed individuals? The point is that achieving equality and becoming fulfilled and happy with ourselves is still a struggle. And for men caught—"locked ... in a prison"—in suppressing or denying their homosexuality, such a book as this is necessary and would be helpful in varying degrees. We must realize that there are still individuals isolated like this that do need to be reached.

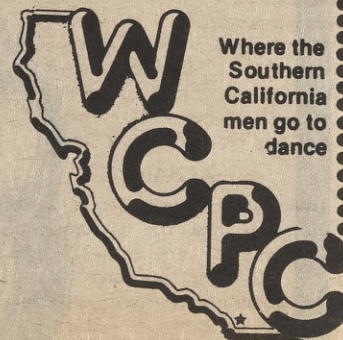
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RICHMOND

by James Ryan

Members of the Virginia Gay Alliance were addressed recently by Dr. Edward H. Peeples, Jr., former Chairman of The Commission on Human Relations in Richmond.

At the beginning of his speech, Dr. Peeples, who was introduced as an "egalitarian", said, "For many years of my early life, I was one of the principal parts of the problem. And now I want to be a part of the solution with human rights being associated with being gay or lesbian."

Peeples referred to a survey of 508 lesbians and gays who were polled in Richmond regarding the civil-rights issue. He stated that the Commission is expected to print the results.

Peeples bluntly pointed out to the crowd that straight legislators were unlikely to move on gay issues without the prodding of gay individuals. As he put it, "Key people will succeed with the rest of us behind the scenes passing ammunition."

Peeples compared the standing of gay and lesbian rights to the same situation as the civil-rights issue in 1959. Peeples pointed out that change is often a simple thing and small numbers of people can make the difference.

ALBANY

Twelve gay community leaders have been appointed by New York Governor, Mario Cuomo, to the Governor's State Task Force on Gay Issues. The Task Force was created by his executive order which bans discrimination based on sexual orientation in state employment and services.

Gay activists viewed the executive order as positive because it protects gay state employees, but noted that it cannot protect the thousands of gay people in the private sector.

Cuomo also urged passage of a statewide gay/lesbian rights law. To date, Wisconsin is the only state which has passed a statewide rights law. A similar measure in California dealing with employment was vetoed by the governor a few months ago.

PALM SPRINGS

With the support of local health authorities and the gay community, Fred Hardt is converting his motel into a residence for people with AIDS. The city's mayor expressed concern about the project's impact on tourism; however, the Chamber of Commerce and others have taken a low-key approach.

According to Hardt, the resort will have space for 17 people and is set to open early in 1985 with rates lower than most convalescent hospitals.

BOSTON

This fall, Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders (GLAD) is entering its seventh year of legal advocacy on behalf of gay people. The organization is growing in many directions and has started the second year of its Outreach and Education Project, aimed at increasing GLAD's visibility and effectiveness throughout all of New England. The AIDS Law Project continues to monitor and respond to AIDS-related discrimination. GLAD is also working more closely with other lesbian and gay legal groups on a national level. A new edition of the Attorney's Directory is about to be published, as well as informational brochures on the Boston Human Rights and Fair Housing Ordinances.

Although all attorneys' time is donated to GLAD, support is needed to cover the costs of court fees, research, and administrative expenses, and educational materials.

For additional information, write GLAD PO Box 218, Boston, MA 02112, or telephone (617) 426-1350.

PHILADELPHIA

Manuscripts and artwork by Black gay men about the Black gay male experience in America are being solicited for an anthology. The book, edited by Joseph Beam, a Philadelphia Black gay activist and writer, will be published in 1986 by Alyson Publications, Inc. of Boston.

Manuscripts may be submitted in the following forms: essays and short fiction (up to 5000 words), poetry (no more than five poems), brief excerpts from plays and novels, journal entries, performance pieces, and interviews. Experiences of intimate relationships, coming out, interactions with family, rural living, youth, religion, prison life, aging, the arts, gay activism, oral history, the military, and erotica are of special interest. Copies should be sent, not originals. All manuscripts should be typed and double spaced on 8 1/2 by 11" white paper with the contributor's name on each page.

Deadline for submissions is February 28, 1985.

Manuscripts and copies of artwork should be sent in duplicate to: Beam/BGA, PO Box 30024, Philadelphia, PA 19103. Only submissions accompanied by a self-addressed envelope with sufficient postage will be returned.

BERKELEY

The Gay Men's Health Collective in Berkeley provides a VD clinic for gay men every Sunday 7-9 PM. Service is free and provided on a confidential basis.

The clinic is located at 2339 Durant Avenue in Berkeley. For additional information, call (415) 644-0425.

SAN DIEGO

San Diego gay activist and physician David McWhirter, M.D., has been appointed to the Scientific Advisory Board of the Kinsey Institute for Sex, Gender and Reproduction, formerly known as the Institute for Sex Research. The Institute, founded in the thirties by pioneer sex researcher Alfred Kinsey, is regarded as the country's most prestigious center for sexual research. (Kinsey published controversial research which indicated that sexuality was not an absolute, but rather a variable behavior. His findings about sexuality are still used by sex researchers.)

McWhirter has lived in San Diego since 1974 and is a graduate of the University of Southern California Medical School. His life partner since 1971 has been Andrew Mattison, a clinical psychologist.

McWhirter and Mattison practice at the Clinical Institute for Human Relationships in Hillcrest. Together in 1983 they published *The Male Couple*, a study of gay men in relationships; the book is now in its fifth printing.

LINCOLN

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) Cornhusker, a Lincoln support group, has received a \$1,770 grant which will be used to develop a library for parents in Lincoln and other Nebraska communities, to produce a monthly newsletter, and to subsidize members' attendance at the International PFLAG Convention.

PFLAG provides a supportive place for parents, friends, and gay and lesbian "children" to openly share their feelings. The homophobic attitudes in our society often restrict places where individuals can talk about homosexuality as a personal experience.

Anyone interested in more information may write to PFLAG Cornhusker, PO Box 4374, Lincoln, NE 68504. All queries are held in strict confidence. A stamped, self-addressed envelope would be appreciated.

ST. LOUIS

A chapter of Affirmation, for gay and lesbian members of the United Methodist Church, is being formed in St. Louis. Participation is open to anyone sharing the group's goals.

The purpose of the organization is to overcome the isolation and alienation faced by gays and lesbians in dealing with the church by providing a network of friends and spiritual support. Local organizers hope to involve gay people and their families and friends.

For further information, write to Affirmation—St. Louis, in care of Dignity—St. Louis, PO Box 23093, St. Louis, MO 63156 or call Bruce at (314) 427-7214.

EUREKA

A Lesbian Rap was recently started to serve women in Humboldt. The group meets every Monday at 7:00 PM in room 106 of the Women's Center at Humboldt State University.

The Rap was established to provide a supportive environment and a meeting place to make acquaintances. Discussions will be confidential.

The Rap is loosely structured and before discussion begins, there are about 30 minutes in which to socialize. Discussion will be led each week by different women, on a volunteer basis.

All lesbians are encouraged to attend. For more information, call Jackie or Laura at the HSU Women's Center (707) 826-4925.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

by James Ryan

A hot fascination for trivia has swept like an epidemic right across America, and finally a trivia game especially for and about gay men and women has become available. Gay Trivia, created by Fabu Enterprises, Inc. in Washington, D.C., includes approximately 2000 questions on such topics as gay history, lifestyles, personalities, politics, arts, and entertainments.

Gay Trivia is similar to most board games. It comes in its own compact case that can be taken anywhere. Just imagine what fun you and your lover could have playing Gay Trivia at family picnics, dinners, the opera, etc.!

If you really love trivia, you'll love trying to beat such questions on history as: Who was Nero's lover? or What pope was called 'Our Lady of Pity'? There are other stumbers like: "What kind of shop did Harvey Milk operate on Castro Street? and Who was the first openly lesbian state legislator in Massachusetts? and What actor played Steve Carrington's first lover on Dynasty? and What button is left undone on a pair of 501s?

While there will be national distribution of Gay Trivia by 1985, the creators can fill mail orders immediately. For information, call (201) 463-0790.

INDIANAPOLIS

The Indiana Civil Liberties Union Gay Task Force, which was formed recently, is seeking members from around the state. There are currently members from the Indianapolis, Fort Wayne, Terre Haute, Richmond, and Lafayette areas.

The Task Force meets every six weeks. For more information, contact Michael Jones, 445 N. Pennsylvania, Suite 501, Indianapolis 46204, (317) 635-4056.

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND

Have you heard of South Padre Island before? You'll hear a lot about it in the future. It's located off the coast of Texas at the end of the Rio Grande Valley on the Mexican border.

South Padre Island has something for everyone. Beautiful white sandy beaches, surf, sun, restaurants, and shopping.

Nearby Brownsville has one of the top zoos in the country and the Rio Grande Valley is full of historical sites. A colorful market place in Matamoros, Mexico is only 30 miles away.

If you need a place to stay, you may want to consider Lyle's Deck, a gay guest house, which is operated by Don Marx and Lyle King. These two former residents of Ft. Wayne, Indiana, visited South Padre Island and liked what they saw. Don was a CPA and Lyle was active in community theatre. Combining their talents at business and entertainment, they have created a delightful guest house.

Just as South Padre Island has something for everyone, so does Lyle's Deck. An extremely attractive facility has been created by joining two duplex houses with a bi-level deck. The original structures were completely gutted, so everything is brand new.

For further information or reservations, contact: Lyle's Deck, 120 E. Atol Street, PO Box 2326, South Padre Island, TX 78597, or call (512) 943-3623. Price: inexpensive.

LOUISVILLE

A Gay Community Center in Old Louisville was officially opened recently. The Center is now open for meetings, banquets, and other gay functions. For more information, call the Louisville Hotline (502) 637-4342.

WICHITA

About 100 Pride Week organizers met in Wichita, Kansas recently for the third annual National Pride Coordinators Conference. Participants met to compare and exchange ideas on the celebration of Gay and Lesbian Pride Week, and represented 25 cities throughout the country.

The representatives made decisions regarding a celebration theme for next year and developed plans for future meetings. "Alive With Pride in 85" will be the national slogan for next year's events, normally scheduled for late June in commemoration of the Stonewall riots. Each pride committee or organization will vote on the adoption of this theme.

Additionally, June 28 was chosen as a national Gay and Lesbian Pride Day. Representatives plan to pursue the establishment of this day as a national holiday at a future time.

It was decided that the next annual conference will be held in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. San Francisco will act as host city in 1986.

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Larry Lanham
Publisher

HONOLULU

The Sexual Identity Center has reached a critical financial turning point. After more than eleven years of service, the Center is in danger of closing unless it receives financial support. The Sexual Identity Center has provided many services and programs: information and referral lines for businesses, health concerns, and social events (500 calls per month for crisis and professional referrals and over 2000 calls a month on the Information Line); facilitating and encouraging dialogue to promote gay people, and support for the lonely or alienated; and advocacy for the rights and privileges of all people regardless of sexual orientation.

For more information, write Sexual Identity Center, PO Box 3224, Honolulu, HA 96801, or telephone (808) 926-1000.

LOUISVILLE

The International Gay Bowling Organization's 5th Annual Tournament will be held in Louisville, KY, during Memorial Day weekend in 1985. It will be the world's largest single gay sporting event, with nearly 1,100 bowlers expected to participate. For more information, contact: Tony Leslie, PO Box 4424, Louisville, KY 40204.

MODESTO

The Stanislaus Owl Empire held its 1984 Coronation with a weekend of festivities in November. "A Rainbow Fantasy...Won't You Come and Ride in Our Beautiful Ballroom" was the theme of the event which was held at the Elks Lodge. Courts from all over California participated in the entertainment.

Modesto Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) is collecting newspapers and aluminum cans for recycling. Proceeds will become part of MCC's Vision Fund, which may be used to provide furnishings when the church moves to a permanent location in the future. Call the church office at (209) 578-3694 to arrange for someone to pick up recyclables.

CAMBRIDGE

The Cambridge City Council voted 6-3 to approve a human rights ordinance that extends protection to gays and lesbians. The action followed negotiations between supporters of two rival ordinances over a four month period. The Council's action also creates a human rights commission to enforce the anti-discrimination law.

CINCINNATI

Metropolitan Community Church Cincinnati has started a discussion group. It is held every Thursday night at 7:30. All are welcome.

It is a place where people can come together with others to talk about subjects of mutual interest. It also provides a way to meet people, in and out of the church, and a time to build a better sense of community.

For more information, call the church office at (513) 241-8216.

OAKLAND

The Community Women's Center of Oakland is now providing a 24-hour hotline for women who are victims of sexual trauma, have drug or drinking problems, suffer from depression, are victims of violence, are in a family or relationship crisis, or are in need of someone to talk to.

Persons who need help may call (415) 652-6566. Volunteers are needed, and the Center provides on-going training for volunteers who staff the phone lines. Call Linda at (415) 652-0612 for information about the next volunteer training sessions.

GLENDORA

The Pomona-San Gabriel Valley Chapter of Great Outdoors meets the second Tuesday of every month in the community room of the Pomona First Federal building at 801 South Grand Avenue in Glendora at 7:30 PM. Persons are encouraged to participate in the group's social and informative programs.

SEATTLE

A malicious harassment ordinance making the physical assault of gays (or even the threat of injury) a criminal offense was signed into law by Seattle's mayor.

The ordinance was approved unanimously by the City Council. The ordinance makes "the intent to intimidate or harass another person" a misdemeanor and provides a maximum penalty of \$500 fine and six months in jail.

The ordinance was first drafted earlier this year to protect gays exclusively. It was later amended to add other protected categories, including "gender, age, marital status, parental status or political ideology."

A number of violent acts against gay people on Seattle's Capitol Hill served to generate support for the new law.

EAST LANSING

The Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) of Lansing has worship service at 6:00 PM every Sunday at the Unitarian Universalist Church at 855 Grove St., in East Lansing. Everyone is welcome to attend.

SAN FRANCISCO

Plans to establish a nonsectarian retirement center for homosexual men and lesbians in the Bay Area were announced recently by a group known as Gays and Lesbian Accommodations for the Experienced in Years (GALAXY).

A new organization formed with the cooperation of the First Unitarian Church of San Francisco, GALAXY hopes to raise \$1 million to construct the center. The organization has not yet selected a site or an architect. It does, however, plan to conduct a retreat in a few months when decisions on the building's location and design will be made.

Contributions may be sent to GALAXY, First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin Street, San Francisco, CA 94109.

Submissions for a new anthology of lesbian and gay poets are now being accepted by Beaux-Arts Press. Poems by lesbians and gay men of the post-Stonewall gay liberation years 1969 to the present will be featured.

The anthology will represent lesbian and gay people in the US from all racial, ethnic, class, religious, and political backgrounds. Persons from all regions, physical differences, personal outlooks; women and men who might not have previously considered appearing in a book that brings gay men and lesbians together; and young writers are encouraged to submit material.

One to five poems may be submitted; however, names should not be put on the poems. Name, address, and telephone number should appear on a separate cover sheet along with a brief biography. Three (3) copies of each poem should be sent to the following: BAP POEMS, BEAUX-ARTS PRESS, 808 Post St., Suite 1106, San Francisco, CA 94109.

The deadline for submissions is January 1, 1985. Publication is expected to occur in Fall 1985.

POMONA

The idea of a Gay/Lesbian Community Services Center in the Pomona/San Gabriel Valley area began a few months ago. The Coalition Board of Directors of the Gay/Lesbian Coalition established a bank account specifically for the establishment of a such a center, and a center began to move toward reality.

There is a need for such a center. A need for a place to meet that is neither bar nor church. A need for a place where lesbian and gay organizations can hold social events and meetings. A need for a place to hold men's, women's, youth, and co-sexual raps. A need for a place where people who are coming out can go. And a need for a place to enable gay women and men to unite as a community.

Fresh, new ideas from all areas of the community are needed in order to succeed. For example, people to help with fundraisers and long-term planning are needed.

For more information, call or write: Pomona/San Gabriel Valley Gay/Lesbian Coalition, 710 W. Orange Grove, Pomona, CA 91768.

WEST HOLLYWOOD

In the recent November elections, residents of West Hollywood voted for cityhood and a gay-dominated city council. The measure to incorporate West Hollywood into a city of approximately 36,000 was approved by 67 percent of the voters.

With forty candidates to choose from, voters elected three openly gay candidates to a 5-member council.

Though the new city has been described by some as a gay Camelot, the main issue facing voters was rent control. Many of the residents are senior citizens on fixed incomes. Sexual orientation was not a major issue, though an estimated 30% of the population is homosexual.

NEW ORLEANS

The New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus will give its annual Christmas concert on December 14 and 15 at St. Mark's Church, 1130 N. Rampart St.

On December 8, the chorus will travel to Houston to perform in a joint Christmas concert with the Montrose Symphonic Band. In return, the Band will appear in New Orleans with the chorus the following weekend. It is hoped that the Band's appearance will spark interest in creating a local instrumental ensemble. Persons interested in either singing or playing instruments with other gays and lesbians are encouraged to contact Jerry at (504) 529-1146.

BALTIMORE

Persons who are interested in bowling in the Charm City Rollers Bowling League should contact J. R. Massey at (301) 962-1531 any night after 7:30 PM. Bowling will be conducted at Brunswick Normandy Lanes on Route 40 West in Ellicott City, MD.

The Baltimore Men's Chorus is holding auditions for its second concert season. This year is expected to be even more exciting than last year when the group made its debut at Gay Pride Day. For more information about being a part of Baltimore's men's chorus, call (301) 889-5561.

ALBUQUERQUE

The Gay and Lesbian Student Union (GLSU) at the University of New Mexico has had a variety of events over the past several weeks. The group has stressed the importance of shaping the future based on the gay heritage. GLSU also prepares a bi-monthly newsletter.

More information about all of GLSU's activities is available at the GLSU office in the Student Union Building Room 215 or by calling (505) 277-6739.

A support group for gay women who have had mastectomies is being formed by an Albuquerque mental health professional. The support group is intended to assist anyone who has had a mastectomy—how to confront the sense of loss, embarrassment, shame, inadequacy, and changed body image that so many times accompanies a mastectomy. For more information, call (505) 266-0022.

The New Mexico Foundation for Human Enrichment is soliciting proposals for the establishment of a center to serve the needs of lesbians and gay men in the Albuquerque area. It is anticipated that such a center will provide community meeting space, a library, and a location for the Information Line; other possibilities include a coffee house, performing arts space, dance space, etc.

Information is available from the Stonewall Center, located at 1330 San Pedro, NE, Suite 207, or by writing the Foundation at 1104 Stanford, NE, Albuquerque, NM 87106.

The Brash Ensemble, Common Bond's chorus, has appointed John Roberts, a professional musician who has recently moved to New Mexico, as its conductor. Roberts was the founder and director of "Choral Manpower," the gay men's chorus in Montgomery, Alabama.

Anyone interested in joining the Brash Ensemble is urged to call Stringer at (505) 296-9215, or Roberts who lives in Santa Fe at (505) 984-8734.

INTERNATIONAL GAY RODEO

The first formation of the International Gay Rodeo Association was held in Phoenix on November 18, '84. Representatives from Colorado, Texas, Arizona, Nevada, and California were in attendance. Next meeting is scheduled for January 26, '85 at Charlie's in Phoenix for formal approval of bi-laws and rodeo rules. Interested parties should contact representatives from their state at Charlie's in Denver or Phoenix.



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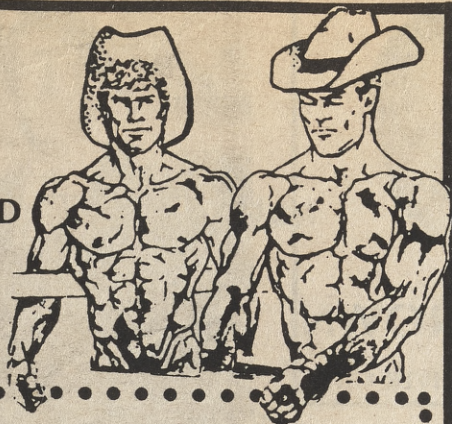
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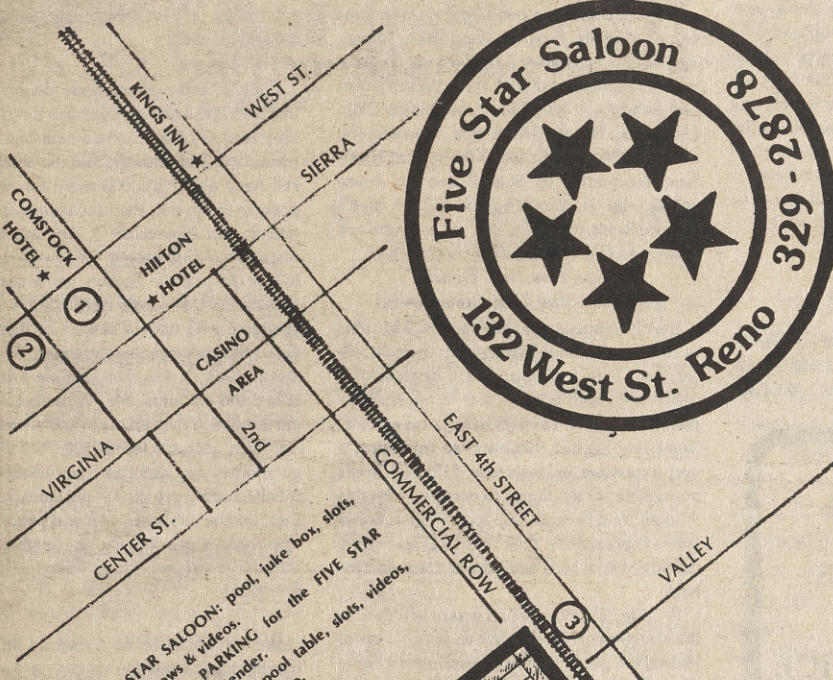
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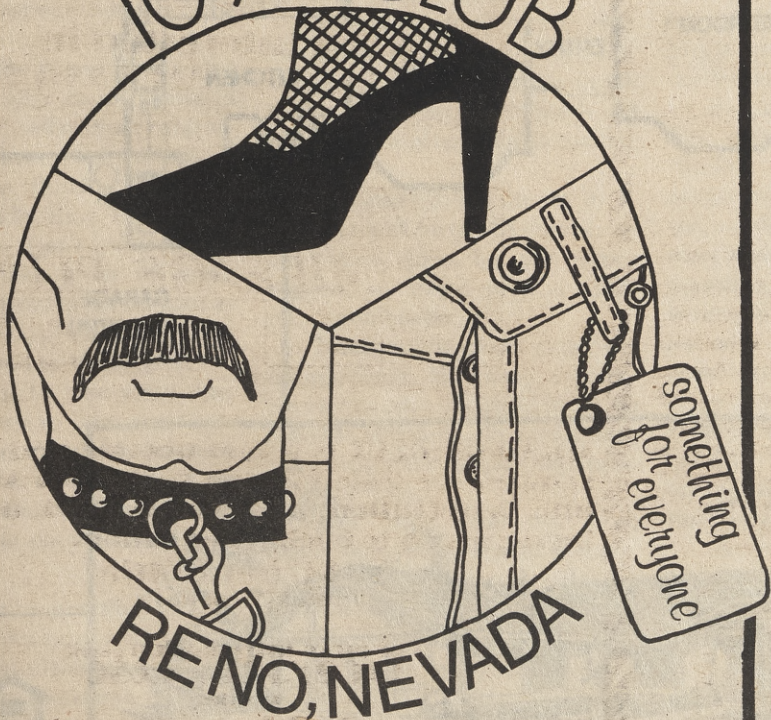
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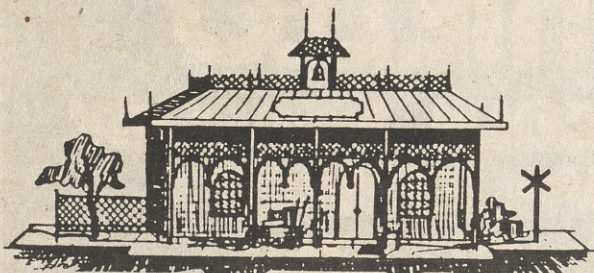


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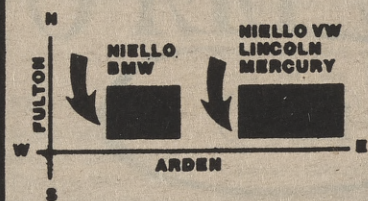
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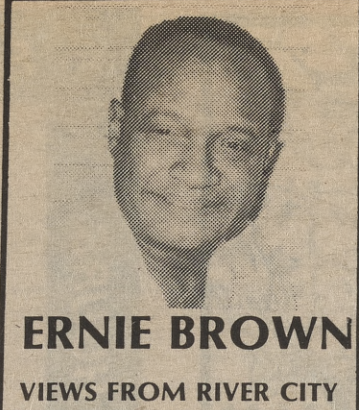
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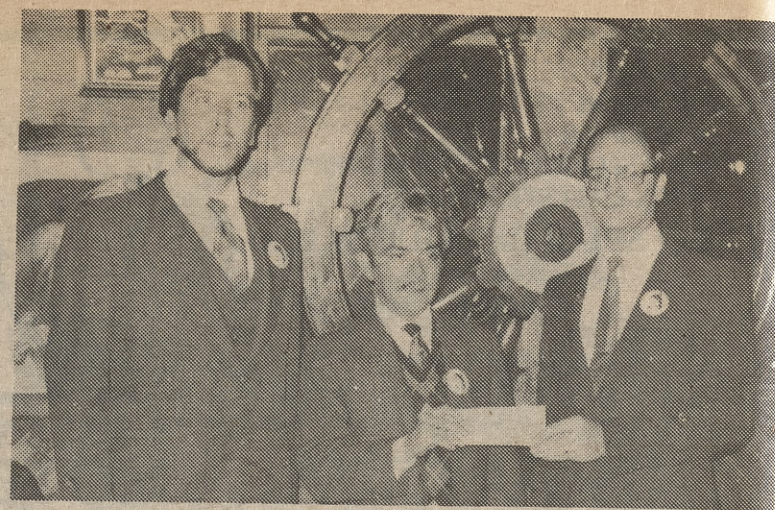
To start my column this month, I'd like to print some excerpts from a letter from Digette, Ms. National Reno Gay Rodeo—1984.

Dear Friends,
What a year this has been! During the year, my dream of eight years came true. I finally became Ms. National Reno Gay Rodeo. I want to thank all of those who assisted me. I wish everyone much love and joy for the holidays & for next year.

May I ask you to join me in an eleven-year tradition. I have asked all the people whom I care about, and whom I could reach, to toast to friendship on Christmas Day, 3:00 PM California time. It doesn't have to be booze, any liquid will do. I have been asking people for the past eleven years to do this. The warmth you will feel is amazing. Please join us. I believe for one moment that the gay community of the world will be together in mind and spirit.

Love you all,
DIGETTE
Ms. National Reno
Gay Rodeo—84

SAGA II, Sacramento Athletic Games Association, is working to represent Sacramento in the 1986 Gay Games. Although



STEVE, BOBBETTE & RON

some of the sports will curtail their events because of the weather, others will come to the front. Kathi McBelt, SAGA tennis coordinator, will plan some polar bear round robins for the tennis program, and Ken Brown, SAGA pool coordinator, will host pool tournaments Saturdays 4:00 PM at the Wreck Room and Sundays at 5:00 PM at the Buffalo Club. Linda and Norm, SAGA golf coordinators, held the last tournament of the year at Riverbend November 18. SAGA II also has a new coordinator in swimming and in both men's and women's physique. Any of you who are interested can contact Norm at 443-6440.

**Lisa Has New Heart
(So Does The Gay Community)**

Last December, Mr. & Mrs. Ron Wittenbel of Rancho Cordova learned that their daughter, Lisa (age 9 years), had a degenerative heart condition; and without a heart transplant, she couldn't expect to live a normal life. They also learned that such an operation is very expensive, in Lisa's case, \$125,000. It was impossible for the family to come up with this amount; and because this type of operation is still experimental, their medical insurance would not cover it. They came to the public for help.

A Little Lisa Heart Fund was established in the straight community. We as gays, lovers of life and the pursuit of happiness, knew exactly what the family was going through. Fund raising is nothing new to us. So we saw that this was a perfect opportunity to help out the straight community.

Mr. Robert Hoyos (Bobbette to most of us) mgr. of the Mercantile Saloon, got a fund

raiser going. Every gay bar & organization in Sacramento got in on the act. There were auctions, raffles, taco feeds, bingo, bazaars, you name it—anything that would raise money, we did it.

Luckily, some anonymous donor contributed \$75,000 which was enough for the operation. And so Little Lisa had a successful heart transplant. But knowing that the family would still need about \$50,000 more for continued post-op treatment, the fund-raising spirit continued. On November 1, one month after starting the fund raising, we invited the family to the Mercantile Saloon for a ceremonial presentation. Mr. Wittenbel & Steve (a representative who was in charge of the straight fund-raising committee) attended. The house was packed. It was then that we totaled and tallied the amounts. Mr. Wittenbel was then introduced to the audience, and we presented him with a check for \$3,500. The man was overcome as well as overwhelmed. He thanked us all on behalf of the family and Little Lisa, and he explained that it was people like us who made it possible for his daughter's life. I am here to tell you: There wasn't a dry eye in the house.

We will continue to monitor Little Lisa's condition and keep you up to date. As of now, she is doing very well and is planning on celebrating her birthday & Christmas at home. We Sacramento gays can feel proud that we were part of this. Yes, Little Lisa has a new heart, and so do we.

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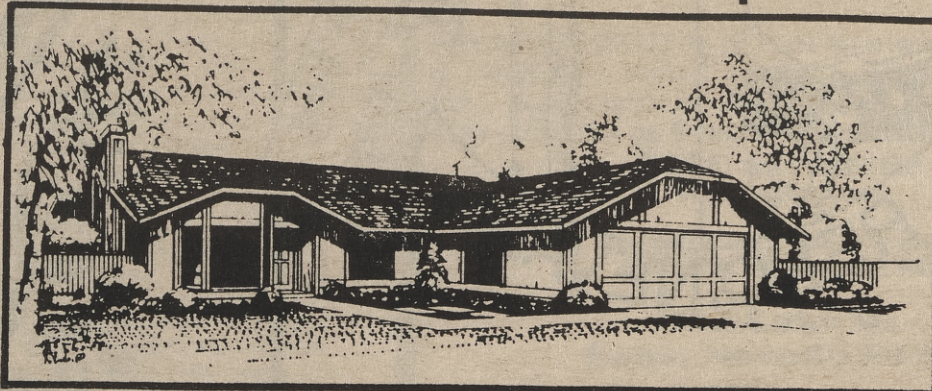
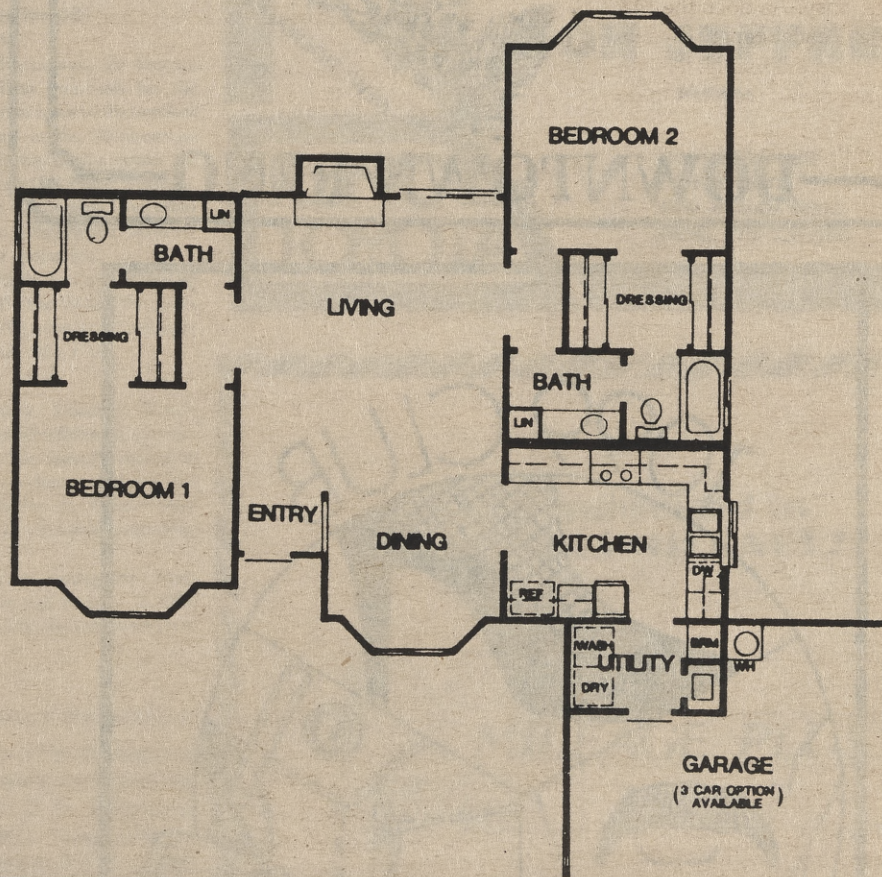
At last, a Sacramento builder has developed a floor plan which suits the homeowner who wants two (2) master bedrooms. The JASMINE, a 1280 square foot plan offered by WINNCREST HOMES, features just such an arrangement. Two large bedrooms, each with a luxurious bath area, have been incorporated in the plan to provide a nice blend of privacy, luxury, and individuality.

As standard features, this LAKECREST VILLAGE home comes with a microwave oven, ceramic tile countertop, oak cabinetry, and full fencing. Prices start at \$90,900 and guaranteed mortgage rates make the buying decision easy.

To compliment the design highlights, WINNCREST is building homes of this style in the beautiful Greenhaven-Pocket area. Long recognized as one of Sacramento's finest neighborhoods, the Greenhaven area offers the quiet, recreational, and convenient lifestyle of distant suburbs, but is only a 10-minute drive to downtown Sacramento via I-5.

For viewing the double-master JASMINE, or any of the WINNCREST plans offered at the LAKECREST VILLAGE project, follow these easy directions: I-5 South to Florin Road, West exit, take Florin for 1/4 mile, left on Long River to model homes.

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"Getting There"

By Tom Dolan



OF BOMBS AND WATERBABIES

I love swimming in the nude. Ever since I discovered a heated outdoor pool where swimsuits are optional, I have felt bathing suits, even Speedos, are unnatural. Paraphrasing Robert Frost, "Something there is that doesn't love a suit, that wants it down!"

I love swimming in the nude. Ever since I discovered a heated outdoor pool where swimsuits are optional, I have felt bathing suits, even Speedos, are unnatural. Paraphrasing Robert Frost, "Something there is that doesn't love a suit, that wants it down!"

Frolicking in turquoise waters like a porpoise, however, I look up whenever a plane from the Strategic Air Command passes overhead. Even "friendly" bombs make me nervous. After all, they are meant to be dropped on somebody!

"Friendly" submarines, bristling with nuclear weapons, also make me uneasy. As does the MX missile, the Peacekeeper (Reaganese for "If you kill me, I'll kill you twice."). They make me want to do something.

My first thought was swimming pools. That's it! Cheaper to build solar-heated swimming pools for every family in the Soviet Union than to fight a nuclear war. Naturally, we'd have to teach them skinny-dipping, and that might be fun, too. With millions of Russkies skinny-dipping on the other side of the world, emotional balance would be restored, and surely peace would reign. More serious thoughts came later.

Inspiration flowed from all the great ones who have counseled reconciliation rather than confrontation, who have lived exemplary, peaceful lives. Buddha, Jesus, St. Francis, Gandhi, King. The solution isn't dramatic, it isn't new. It doesn't glitter or make a lot of noise. Neither is it passive. Or as easy as building a string of swimming pools from Leningrad to Vladivostok.

It's going to take more than that. It's going to take people-to-people contact in order to defuse or dismantle The Bomb, "before we blow each other up," as Senator Howard Baker put it recently.

What I'm supporting, among other things, is a letter-writing campaign. From us to them, addressing our love of life (and skinny-dipping, or its equivalent in our individual lives). For some it's a loving concern for children and grandchildren (lots of us have them). For others it's the natural beauty of the planet (to say nothing of *Hunkus Americanus*).

I wish I could afford a round-trip ticket to Moscow, with a side-trip to some small anonymous village in the USSR. Like most of us, I can't do that. So I'm suggesting an affordable alternative: each of us writes one letter to a fellow human being in the Soviet Union, telling him or her how we feel about war and peace, what we think about life and death.

Politicians and statesmen haven't been able to find a way out of the current *cul de sac*, which has lasted nearly 40 years. Ordinary citizens will have to get involved.

What do we say in a personal letter to a Soviet citizen? That's up to each of us, of course. I don't think I'd actually mention skinny-dipping in solar-heated pools, but here are some other thoughts that have occurred to me: Surely, we have enough enemies without taking on each other. We have ignorance, poverty, pollution, AIDS, and a host of other mysterious diseases, to name just a few.

The gay community has risen admirably to the challenge of AIDS and proven again that we are interested in much more than sexual liberation, important as that is, and disco dancing. Enormous talent and energy have been mobilized to fight AIDS and to support its victims. Unfortunately, The Bomb, in terms of sheer numbers, has the capability of making the AIDS crisis look like a game of Trivial Pursuit.

Incredibly, forty years after Hiroshima there is still time. The doomsday clock has not yet struck twelve. However, we'd better get our asses in gear. Time is running out.

Somebody's got to do it. It might as well be us. Of course, we can't do it alone, but our history suggests we might make a significant contribution.

Hiding in the closet didn't get us anywhere, but many a homophobe has been disarmed by an old friend's coming out. It's hard to hate somebody you know. It's hard to be afraid of them.

And that's what this is all about: fear. We're scared of them, they're scared of us. Part of the solution is getting to know one another in a personal way.

A similar approach was suggested by the fellow who said, "Where there is no love, put love, and you will find love." Another great one told us to love our enemies, a command that has been ignored by most of his "followers" for the past 2,000 years.

These are the "simple" formulas that work when they are tried, as they were by Gandhi in India and by King in this country. Trouble is, they aren't tried often enough.

When I'm busy loving somebody, as I sometimes am in that heated, outdoor pool, hatred is the furthest thing from my mind. And when somebody feels loved, he or she isn't interested in attacking others.

The enormity of our nuclear stockpile suggests the enormity of our need—to love and be loved. One look at our Secretary of Defense reveals a terribly unhappy, deprived individual. Gromyko's countenance is equally melancholy. How about an Alan Alda for Secretary of Defense? Someone motivated by an abundance rather than a lack of love? It might help.

Following World War II, many Americans corresponded with and sent CARE packages to Germans, who had been their "enemies." I was one of them and got close to one family, the Weigels in Marburg. How much better it would have been to get close to a German family before the holocaust of the war, before Christian and his sisters had lost their daddy in battle, before even one of our people had died. I'm not suggesting people-to-people contact could have prevented World War II or Hitler's ascendancy. But it might have helped.

In writing to my Russian family, I'll emphasize what we have in common, not what separates us: Our love of life and family, our desire for peace and plenty. Our hopes and our fears.

I won't get into a discussion of the whys and wherefores of "nuclear deterrence." This is a person-to-person communication, not a political tract or treatise. It's more likely I'll write about my morning walks, favorite books and music, what a terrible cook I am, and how I feel when all the grief of the world pours through that tube and into my livingroom. Wouldn't it be great to wake up some morning and see the headline, PEACE AT LAST, in all our morning papers? I'll write about stuff like that.

As the bumper sticker tells it, "Just one little old nuclear bomb can ruin your whole day." To say nothing of my beloved outdoor pool, where I intend to go on frolicking in the nude as long as I have life and breath.

I guess the bottom line is, we'll never get "there," wherever "there" is, if The Bomb goes off. Let's do whatever we can to defuse it now.



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by Edwards E. Ket.

Dear Ed. E. Kett,

I'm trying to build up enough nerve to hire a masseur. I've seen some pretty humpy numbers advertised in the local gay newspapers, but I have a question. If I want the guy to massage all of me, what should I say?

Ever,
Lamont

Dear Lamont,

Most masseurs are legitimate. So it's best to be careful when asking for special services, or you may find that you've rubbed your masseur the wrong way.

Dear Mr. Kett,

Okay, so last month you had a letter from a dude who had a fling with this guy, and then the dude wondered why the guy couldn't remember him. He wanted to know if he should go up to the guy and refresh his memory. You suggested that the guy couldn't remember the dude's face, and that he should drop his drawers.

Okay, so what about this? I met this certain guy. We had a long booze filled conversation in a bar one night. We were really attracted to each other, but for various reasons I won't bore you with, we weren't able to get into each other's pants that night. Okay, so a couple of nights later when I ran into him again, he acts like he's never met me,

like he can see right through me. Dropping my pants wouldn't refresh his memory because he never got that far.

Okay, so you'll agree, won't you, that I'm within my rights to remind the prissy little queen what a hot man I am whether it's polite or not?

Sincerely,
Adlai

Dear Adlai,

Well, dropping your pants certainly might prove how hot you are, especially if your thermometer is rising. On the other hand, reminding someone of his forgetfulness is a terrible way to start a romance. Next time you talk to a number you may want to pick up, be sure to pick up a phone number too.

Dear Ed. E. Kett,

I do a lot of formal entertaining. What is the proper seating arrangement for a large dinner party? Do I seat those with titles and/or degrees at the head of the table. Should I seat single guys on the prowl at one end of the table and those with lovers at the other? Should I separate the leather queens from the drag queens? Your help concerning this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Yours,
Simon

Dear Simon,

Unless you have a guest of honor, who would naturally sit at the head of the table, everyone at a gay dinner party is considered equal. So seat the people you wish to converse with at your end of the table. Just make sure that the only chicken the chickenhawks eat comes from their plates.

Dear Ed E. Kett,

This may not be a question of manners, but is it safe to assume that a guy with a stud in his ear is gay? Please hurry with your answer.

Yours,
Kirk

Dear Kirk,

My mother always taught me that a stud with a stud is often a dud. So take your chances like the rest of us. rest of your life? Unless, of course, your lover decides to give you a big goodbye kiss.

Dear Ed,

No one where I work knows I'm gay, and I intend to keep it that way. Whenever I meet someone gay, I usually refuse to tell him where I work. The last thing I need at my job is some lispng queen drooling over me. Is there some graceful way to tell these guys it's none of their business when they ask me where I work? Pretending I didn't hear the question doesn't always work. Some of these guys insist on knowing where I work. Help.

Ever,
Sven

Dear Sven,

What are you afraid of, Doll? Swarms of limp-wristed queens blowing kisses at you under the boss' view? And what makes you think you're being so butch at work, Sweetheart? Maybe your co-workers have already figured you out. In any case, most gay people have no desire to expose your lifestyle to your boss. So next time someone asks you where you work, tell them.

Dear Ed. E. Kett,

When is it proper for two guys to hold hands in public?

Affectionately,
Alain

Dear Alain,

Only when they're trapeze artists.



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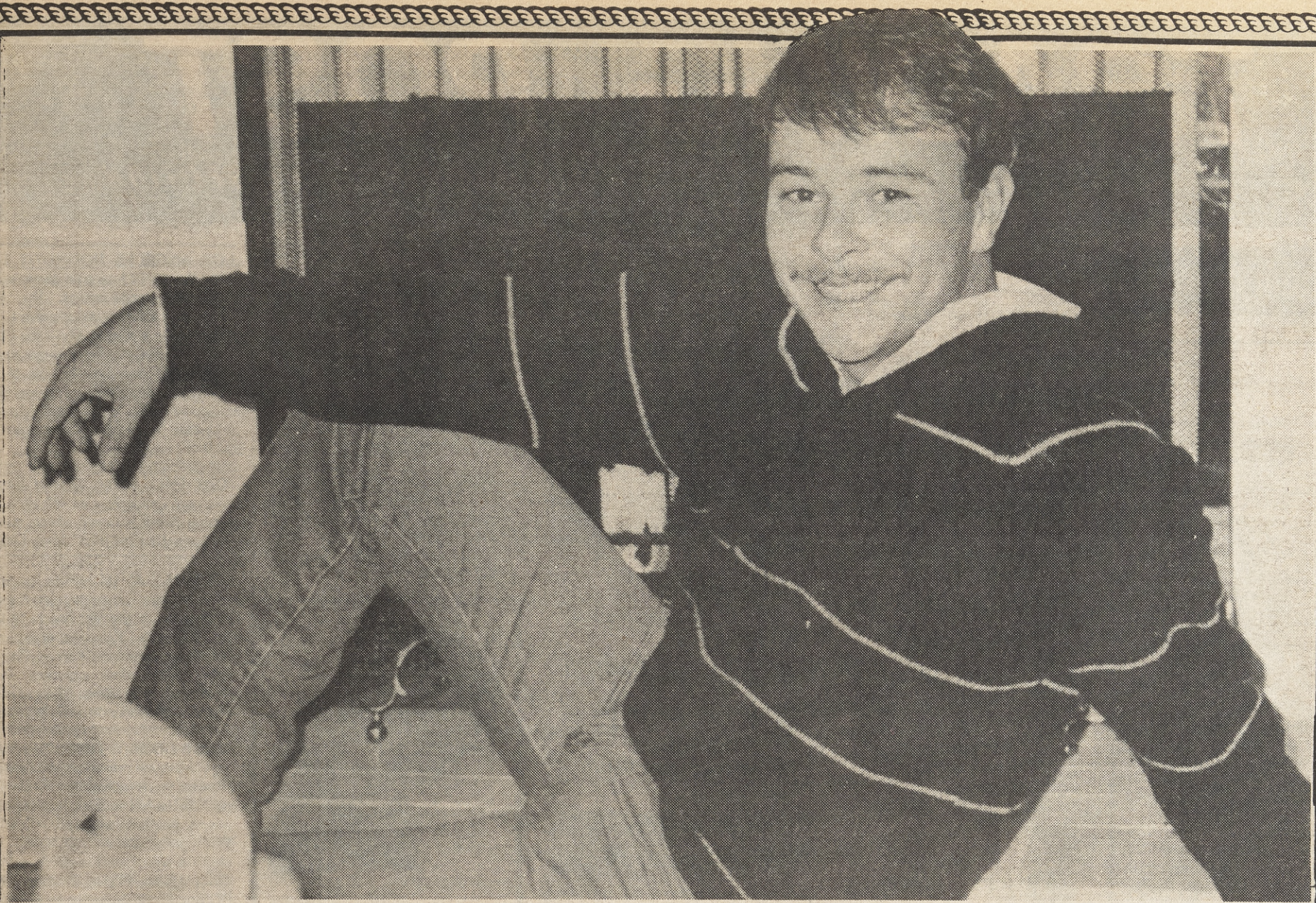
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PERSONAL

GWM, 34, 6'1", 180 lbs, looking for GWM 21-37 for friendship/relationship. I enjoy all types of music, jogging, lift weights, swimming, camping, nude beaches, baking, knitting and micro-computers. Interested men in the Sacto metro area contact Jonathan at (916) 925-5959.

B/W COUPLE recently moved to Reno interested in meeting other couples for socializing & friendship, not really into bar scene, interested parties PO Box 60548, Reno, NV 89506-0548.

FEMALE DESIRES TO MEET, same 40 and over in Yuba-Sutter Counties & vicinity. Need to be discreet. Write F.D.T.M., PL-104, c/o THE PATLAR, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

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TOP THIS, GWM, 32, Hot Bottom, Discreet. Out only. Call 452-1476, Answering Service. Leave phone number for immediate call back. Mark Deeb.

GWM 37 5' 5" 145 looking for GWM 18-26 straight appearing as traveling companion to Waikiki Beach 12-12-84 for 6 nights. Relationship possible. Includes airfare from Kansas City and room. Share other expenses. Prefer photo with letter. Write Boxholder, PO Box 276, Shawnee Mission, KS 66201.

ONCE UPON A TIME...There was a very handsome prince so successful in showbiz he never had time for bars and such. So he placed this little ad and lived happily ever after with...you? (Why not? Don't you deserve the best?) Your photo & info (both!) could do it. Write: *Once Upon*, PL-111, c/o The Patlar, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.



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GAY COUPLE, early 30's, wishes to meet other gay couples for occasional camping, bicycling or dinner out. Write: Couple, PL-108, c/o THE PATLAR, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

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B/W COUPLE interested in meeting other B/W couples for socializing and friendship, not really into bar scene. Interested parties 6938 Franklin Blvd., Ste. 302, Sacramento, CA 95823.

DYNASTY LOVERS: "Jeff Colby" type ready to settle down with "Stephen Carrington" type. "Alexis" could be our best man. Write Jeff, PL-106, THE PATLAR, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

FOR REAL—older GWM, retired or with some income desired needing a place to live among like life style; board and room in the country in exchange for care & help with household, yard, vegetable garden. Some mechanical skill; you may putter around in the shop with motorcycles, trucks, farm & garden tractors, chainsaws, etc. You name it, you can do it here. Must have clean habits, high ideals, be quiet, discreet, serious, compatible, a doer and a giver, clean shaven, short hair, be a straight-acting person in good health of average normal weight, have a real need to care and to be cared for, some musical talent and sense of humor, proud, willing to share. Yours truly likewise. Reply to Ranch #1, PL-102, c/o The Patlar, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95922.

GWM 18-40, cattleman, ranchhand, self-starter, live one, jack of all trades, capable, willing, responsible, must have some experience, nominal allowance, relationship hoped for. Read the above ad; it applies here, too. Reply to Ranch #2, PL-103, c/o The Patlar, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

REAL FOLKS (and bozos), cute, conscious, positive, likeable, affectionate male into: body, mind, being silly, honest, and loving. Write R. F. & B., PL-107, c/o THE PATLAR.

LOVING, WARM, AFFECTION-ATE BI FEMALE, early forties, wants to meet other bi-sexual men and women and gay females for friendship and dating. Sincere only. Write: L.W.A., PL-105, c/o THE PATLAR, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

GWM 34 6' 1" looking to meet same 25-35, write to PO Box 5704, Phoenix, AZ 85010 (send photo with what you have to offer).

GAY INTRODUCTION SERVICE

If the idea of an arranged date intrigues you give **Man-to-Man** a call. It is the only gay oriented dating service in the Sacramento area. The service is designed to put a man in touch with another man who shares common interests, background, and goals. The men must develop a friendship/relationship on their own after the introduction.

The participants in **Man-to-Man** includes gays and bisexuals of all ages with a wide diversity of interests and backgrounds. Is a dating service for you? It may be, if you are genuinely friendship/relationship oriented.

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THE GOOD ONES TAKE TIME: Ever notice how the ones that start in a blaze of passionate infatuation usually end in a splash of ice water? GWM wants to develop a lasting relationship the way lasting relationships were meant to be developed—slowly, naturally, enjoyably, and without pressure. If you feel the same way, let's date, do things we like to do, talk, and see what happens from there. At the worst, we'll have a good time. Call Patrick, (916) 391-9755.

GWM 27, 5' 10", 150. Looking for G/W/M, 21-35 for friend, possible lover in Marysville, Yuba City area. Please no fats, feds or blacks. Send letter of interest with photo to Box Holder, PO Box 2586 Marysville, CA 95901.

HEY, BOY! Your daddy is looking for you. Write Daddy, PL-109, c/o THE PATLAR, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

CHILLY IN THE VALLEY: Looking for that warm body and soul to snuggle up to on lonely nights? My interests include movies, reading, conversation, and outdoors. Sense of humor and positive outlook are pluses. SEX: We'll have to figure out all those abbreviations and signals later. Just want someone to go out and have a good time with. After that...? Write: Hank, PL-110, c/o PATLAR, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

GWM 30 5' 7" 35 black hair very cute and absolutely goo goo seeks gm between 20-30 for days-nights and possible relationship, no phonies please, call Robert after 6 PM (916) 685-3357.

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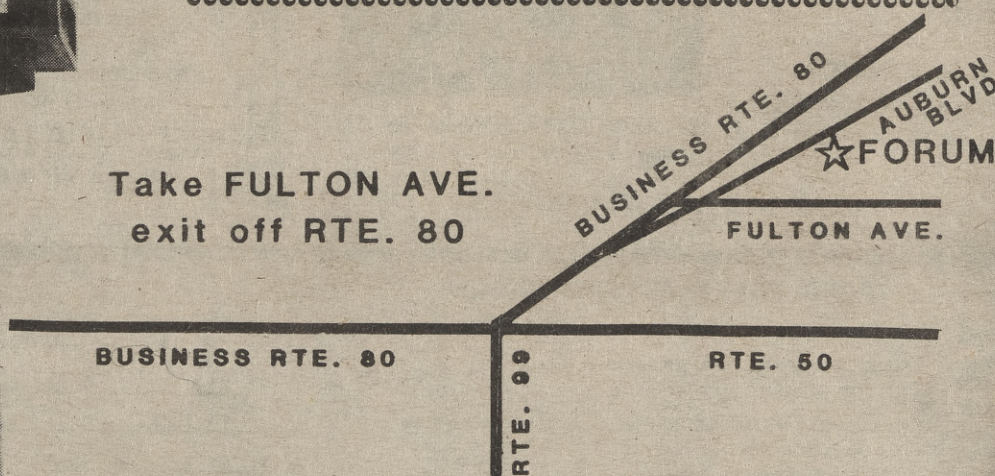
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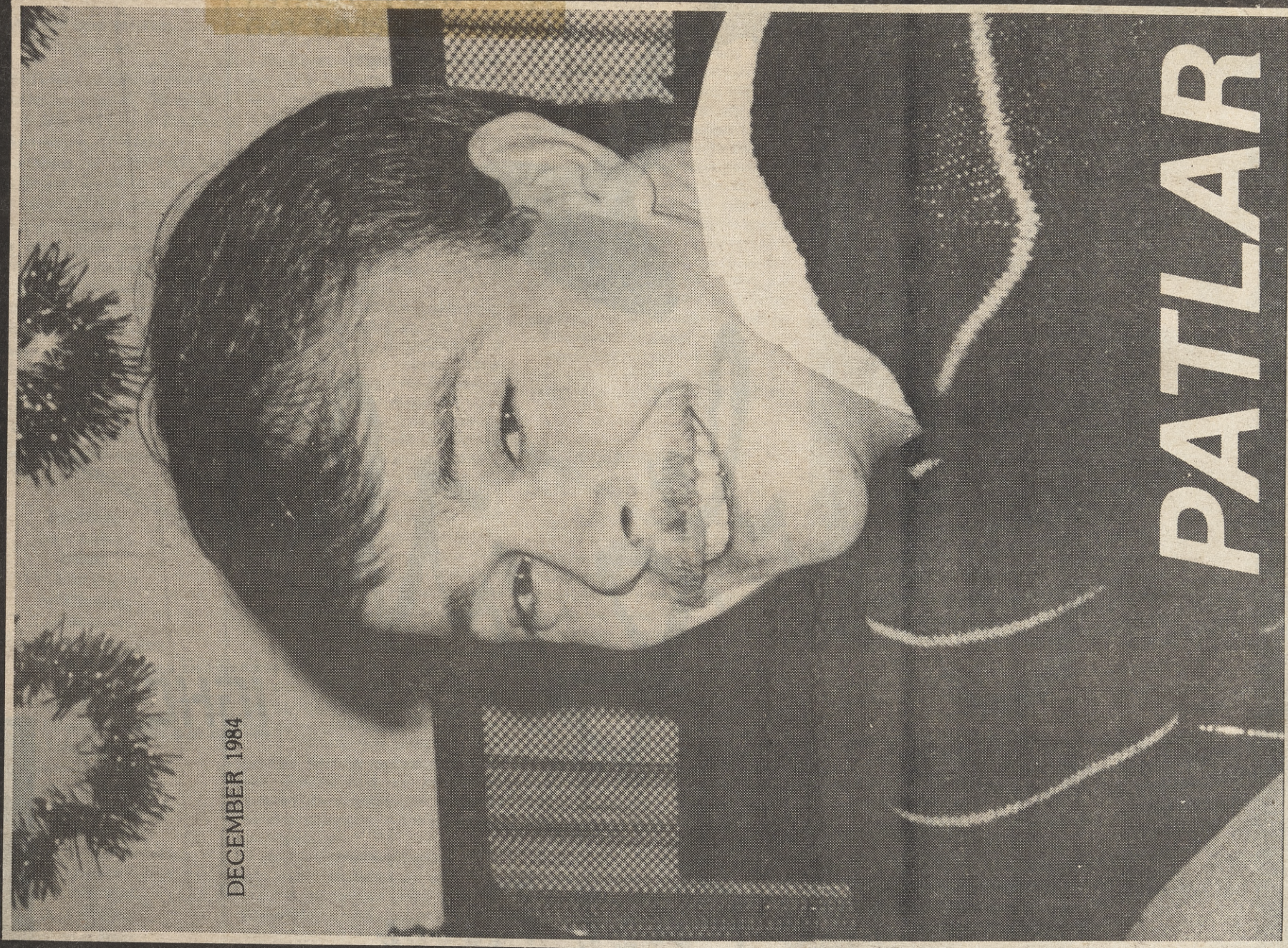
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